# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 FEBRUARY 1982

## Lebanon

The hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner at Beirut airport by supporters of Imam Musa as-Sadr ended early on 25 February, 9 hours after the plane was seized upon arrival from Libya, Beirut radio reported. The radio said the hijackers surrendered to Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) in return for a promise that the question of Musa as-Sadr will be raised at the United Nations, the International Court of Justice and the Arab League, but AFP said the hijackers escaped by fading into crowds at the airport. AFP noted that among the freed passengers was George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, which has frequently clashed with Shi'ite militiamen. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that a spokesman for the Sons of the South movement said his organization planned the hijacking. The radio also carried an Amal Movement statement denouncing the hijacking.

Beirut radio cited sources close to the hijackers as saying they wanted to fly to Tehran, but Tehran radio broadcast an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement condemning the hijacking and announcing the closure of Iranian airspace to the plane. According to Beirut radio, the operation was led by Hamzah, the hijacker of a Libyan airliner last December.

## Syria

Ba'th Party Assistant Regional Secretary General Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah told a meeting of party officials, provincial governors and popular organization chiefs that the search for Muslim Brotherhood hideouts in Hamah has ended, Damascus radio reported. Asserting that security forces are now in complete control, he said life is returning to normal in Hamah. Voice of Lebanon said Hamah had suffered massive devastation and was without electricity and water. It added that the authorities had buried hundreds in a mass grave.

In an interview with Italian television broadcast Damascus radio, President Hafiz al-Asad said documents captured from the Muslim Brotherhood prove they are instigated by foreign quarters. Claiming that the Syrian Government never felt threatened by the events in Hamah, Al-Asad said he almost pitied those who had pinned their hopes on the Muslim Brotherhood gangs there.

In an interview broadcast by Damascus radio on 25 February, a Hamah Ba'th Party official recounted in detail the events of 3 February, naming some of his colleagues who were killed by the Muslim Brotherhood. He said modern Soviet and U.S. Arms as well as Iraqi currency, had been captured from the Brotherhood.

## Egypt

Shamir Cairo Talks -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met in Cairo with Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Cairo radio reported. The two agreed on the importance of continuing the autonomy talks now and after Israel withdraws from Sinai. According to Jerusalem radio, Muhyi ad-Din told Shamir that if any change occurs in Egypt's relations with Israel after the Sinai withdrawal, it will be for the better. However, the radio said, differences persist on how to accelerate the autonomy negotiations and demarcate the border in Rafah and the Elat area. Muhyi ad-Din rejected Shamir's proposal to put off discussing the Jerusalem issue, the radio added. Earlier, Shamir told the radio that he wants to return home with a clear announcement that the autonomy negotiations will continue without breaks. Shamir also said he would like to give fresh impetus to normalization issues that have been agreed upon but not implemented. President Husni Mubarak is likely to visit Israel on 16-17 March, according to the same radio report.

Ghali Interview -- In an interview with MAY, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stressed Egypt's view that the Palestinian administrative council to be set up under the Camp David accords will be a temporary body intended to negotiate the ultimate future of the West Bank and Gaza. Ghali declined to say what Egypt would do if Israel annexed the West Bank and Gaza, asserting that Israel would not take this step and would continue to negotiate within the framework of the peace process.

## Israel

Unity Government Proposal -- In a letter to Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, Prime Minister Menahem Begin proposed immediate talks on forming a national unity government, Jerusalem radio reported. According to the radio, the suggestion was received coolly by Labor Party members.

Sharon Request -- According to MA'ARIV, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has asked the U.S. Government to change from a loan to a grant $240 million earmarked for completing the Negev airfields being constructed by U.S. firms.

Nabulus Meeting -- A political meeting at Nabulus town hall demanded the reopening of Bi'r Zayt University, expressed solidarity with the Golan Druze, and called for the establishment of a PLO-led Palestinian state, 'AL HAMISHMAR reported. The paper noted that this was the first such meeting that the military government had not banned in a long time.

## Libyan-Tunisian Relations

Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba held a private talk with Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Carthage, Tunis radio reported. At another meeting, described by the radio as outspoken, Al-Qadhdhafi, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and a group of Tunisian intellectuals discussed Arab unity.

## Gulf

A GCC interior ministers statement carried by WAKH revealed that during their 23-24 February Riyadh conference the ministers agreed to sign a comprehensive joint security agreement. They reviewed documents submitted by Bahrain on the "Iranian plot" and expressed full support for Bahrain. According to a statement issued by the GCC secretary general, broadcast by Riyadh radio, the draft security agreement will be drawn up by GCC experts and reviewed at a ministerial meeting to be held in October.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PM241219 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 20-26 Feb 82 pp 19-22

[Jamal ar-Rawi interview with Dr 'Isam as-Sartawi, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's adviser on international affairs and Palestine National Council member, in Paris: "The first interview of its kind with 'Arafat's adviser, the most controversial Palestinian figure" -- date of interview not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you view the general Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian cause at this stage?

[Answer] I must regrettably say that we do not have a complete and serious visualization of the extent of Israel's threat to the Arab nation and the ambitions of this expansionist state. On the basis of the long years of conflict and the facts that have accumulated, we can say with certainty that Israel's strategic aim is to reach the Arab oilfields. In the 34 years since its inception, the Zionist state has only managed to achieve some partial success inconsistent with the targets set by its founding fathers, who early this century assumed that as soon as Israel' came into existence all the Jews of the world -- with a few exceptions -- would flock to it. However, this has not happened. Of the world's 19 million Jews only 3 million have settled in Israel.

Israel realizes that in politics there is nothing permanent and there is no guarantee that the United States, Israel's friend and supporter today, will remain so forever. Israel and all the Jews in the world are wondering: What then?

This is why the Zionist experiment will not be complete except when Israel has intrinsic security and intrinsic economic prosperity, and this can only happen when it acquires the Arab oilfields. Only that would give it complete self-sufficiency. Israel would give itself security by balkanizing the Arab homeland. This plan is as old as the Zionist movement itself and can only be fulfilled through the possession of the economic resources necessary to enable Israel to directly manufacture its arms. Only then would a large number of Jews settle in greater Israel.

This is Israel's objective and everything Israel does at the international or Arab levels is part of its effort to fulfill this basic goal, namely economic and military self-sufficiency.

[Question] How can the Arabs realistically confront this long-term Israeli scheme?

[Answer] We should formulate a comprehensive and integrated military and political strategy not confined to just one Arab state or another. The Israeli enemy's war against us is a general war and we must face it collectively. However, there are two prerequisites for such confrontation: there should be Arab solidarity and bilateral Arab differences should be ironed out to provide a minimum degree of ability to face the enemy militarily; and, there should be a unified Arab political strategy. The political strategy is no less important than military confrontation. Israel's military superiority is an imported superiority. There is no doubt that an important aspect of the military confrontation with Israel is political confrontation with the side that gives Israel this superiority -- the United States -- and consolidation of our relations with the side or sides that supply us with arms, namely the Soviet Union and the East European states. All elements of Arab superiority, especially the economic ones, should be used in the confrontation battle in order to minimize the aid the enemy gets and thus achieve political and military balance with the enemy.

[Question] Do you not believe that the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region would be a blow to the Zionist entity?

[Answer] A just peace in the Middle East based on full Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, the setting up of an independent Palestinian state under PLO leadership, and fulfillment of the right of repatriation, would be contrary to the Israeli plan we have just discussed. Israel is well aware of this and considers that its more dangerous enemies in the Arab and Palestinian arenas are the ones striving for a just peace. Statements threatening to cast Israel and its Jews into the sea provide, wittingly or unwittingly, a cover for the Zionist plot.

[Question] In your opinion, would the Fes summit have adopted Prince Fahd's plan if the PLO had approved it?

[Answer] I do not believe there is a unanimous Palestinian rejection of the plan. The positions of brothers Abu 'Ammar, Abu Jihad, Abu al-Walid, Abu Iyad, and Abu as-Sa'id [Yasir 'Arafat, Khalil al-Wazir, Sa'd Sayil, Salah Khalaf and Khalid al-Hasan respectively] are quite clear. During its recent sessions in Damascus, the Palestine National Council expressed support for that part in President Brezhnev's speech [not further identified] on the Middle East. If we scrutinize Brezhnev's views on this matter we will not find them very different from Prince Fahd's views. In fact, many Palestinian intellectuals believe that Prince Fahd's plan offers even more than what has been proposed by Brezhnev. So, There is no disagreement within the Palestinian camp on principles. The differences are only over tactics and this is due to the lack of Arab solidarity and the effects of arab differences on the Palestinian arena.

[Question] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Askandar Ahmad recently submitted a peace plan based on Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, recognition of the Palestinian people's rights and termination of the state of war between the Arabs and Israel. What is your opinion of this plan?

[Answer] This Syrian peace plan represents a real challenge to Israel on peaceful grounds, and it is a step forward toward the formulation of a unified Arab strategy. We hope that such a strategy will crystallize at the next Arab summit. With such a strategy we can achieve Arab solidarity which is the only weapon with which we can confront Israel.

[Question] Assuming that the next Arab summit unanimously approves Prince Fahd' plan, would this in your opinion lead to peace in the region?

[Answer] Of course not. Prince Fahd's plan was most vehemently fought by Israel, not by certain Arabs and Palestinians. The Israeli establishment was alarmed when the plan was announced. The Israel Cabinet and the Knesset met to condemn it.

An Arab endorsement of the Saudi plan would be the cornerstone of the Arab political confrontation strategy. It should be the aim of this strategy to change the Israeli domestic scene and contain Israel at the international level.

[Question] In your analyses you attach great importance to the Israeli peace camp which consists of some peripheral Israeli political forces. But how can these limited forces influence the course of affairs?

[Answer] The real force of the Israeli peace camp are much stronger than they appear to be to us and we have evidence to this. The "Peace Now" movement, for example, in 1977 held a demonstration in which some 150,000 people took part. But this camp is the target of concentrated and violent attack by the Israeli ruling establishment; it was also grossly ignored by the Arab countries and the Palestinian revolution. The problem of this camp lies in proving its credibility before the Israeli public opinion, and in order to do so we must deal with it clearly and not surreptituously and shyly.

This was what we have failed to achieve. This is the weakness that we must deal with on the Palestinian and Arab level. Had this camp succeeded in obtaining 10 seats in the Knesset during the recent parliamentary elections it would have been the force that will be in control of the fate of the government and nominate the prime minister. But the Palestinian and Arab negiligence and even our contribution to killing its credibility have led to reducing the number of the deputies of the Israeli communist party (RAKAH) to four deputies and the loss of the Peace for Israel Party (SHELLI) of its two seats in the parliament.

[Question] How can, in your view, this camp be helped and given credibility in the eyes of the Israeli public opinion?

[Answer] In order to give this camp sure credibility there must be a clear political Arab stand which this camp can brandish as a weapon in the face of the expansionist forces inside Israel. On the Palestinian level clear and frank decisions must be major in order to deal with this camp.

[Question] Didn't the Palestine National Council [PNC] make a decision in this regard in 1977?

[Answer] It was the PNC decision in 1977 that opened the door to dialogue and set it on legal basis. But in 1981 the PNC made an ambiguous decision which was nearer to halting the dialogue than confirming its continuation. Therefore, the legitimate Palestinian institution must reconsider this decision after consultation with the Arab brothers so that a unified Palestinian and Arab stand may be reached. We want such a stand to be confirmed at the coming Arab summit.

[Question] But what is the wisdom in involving the Arab countries in an internal Palestian decision?

[Answer] The unity of an Arab stand is more important than any political strategy we can propose. Despite my strong belief in the extreme importance of dialogue with this "Israeli democratic force," what is more important, in my view, is the restoration of Arab solidarity. I am for stopping the dialogue with these Israeli forces if its continuation is going to cause a rift in the Palestinian and Arab arena.

[Question] What was your reaction to the PNC resolution at its recent session which closed the door to dialogue with these Israeli forces?

[Answer] On my part, I immediately stopped the dialogue in compliance with the PNC resolution, which is the highest Palestinian legislative authority. The part of the dialogue I was carrying out was not a personal endeavor nor a whimsical stand. My role proceeded from the grounds of Palestinian legitimacy and Palestinian representation as well as from official legislative and executive Palestinian decisions. However, this does not mean that my belief in the strategic importance of dialogue with these Israeli forces has been shaken. I am now struggling to legitimize the dialogue on the Palestinian level and I call for legitimizing it on the Arab level. I hope that confirming the legitimacy of this dialogue will be part of the future Arab peace plan.

[Question] There is great confusion in Palestinian circles regarding the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. Can you throw some light on this dialogue, its secrets and how it started?

[Answer] The time has not yet come to reveal everything and disclose the story of the dialogue fully. But what I can say now is that it was first contemplated in the early seventies. Martyr Sa'd Hamami [former PLO representative in London] played a prominent role in this regard. Despite the fact that the Fatah movement was first to hold a dialogue with the "Israeli democratic forces," we will not forget the roles played by many brothers in the other Palestinian organizations, specifically Brother Nayif Hawatimah [general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] who was the first Palestinian

official to meet an Israeli and discuss peace issues in 1974. This was his meeting with a correspondent of the Israeli newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT and his well-known interview with him. The Democratic Front followed up this initiative with a joint Palestinian-Israeli project, namely the publication of the quarterly KHAMSIN which was published in Paris for several years and had a joint Palestinian-Israeli editorial board.

[Question] Since your meetings [with the Israeli's] were legitimate and official and since other organizations took part in them, what was the reason for the campaign against you and why this controversy over dialogue with these Israeli forces?

[Answer] The disagreement was not over the principle of dialogue but over with whom we have to have a dialogue. The opposition group within the PLO insisted that the dialogue should be confined to the Israeli Communist Party (RAKAH) and to exclude from it all the non-Marxist Israeli forces while our stand has been that Marxism cannot be the criterion but that there should be a scientific measure identifying the forces with whom we can have a dialogue, namely, those which meet the following conditions: first, that they should approve the total withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967; second, they should recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; third, they must recognize the right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent state of their own under the PLO leadership and that its capital be Jerusalem, and; fourth, that they should recognize the Palestinian people's right to return home.

For example, the problem with some was that Brezhnev's peaceful solution was acceptable because it is "Marxist" and dialogue with RAKAH was acceptable because it is a Marxist party but Amir Fahd's plan was not acceptable because it is not Marxist. Despite my admiration and respect for President Brezhnev and the Israeli Communist Party, I insist that Marxism is not the yardstick of the search for peace, but that the only yardstick is the national Arab and Palestinian interests.

[Question] There has been much talk in the Palestinian, Arab and international arena about the recognition of Israel. What is your stand on this issue?

[Answer] There are several aspects to this problem. Technically, the recognition of any state has specific basic elements. The first is the element of "equality," meaning that recognition takes place between one state and another; in other words it is an act of sovereignty. The PLO is not a sovereign state and therefore the condition of equality does not exist. The second element is the exchange. There is no one-sided recognition; there should be a mutual recognition. Unilateral recognition has absolutely no legal meaning. The third element is that recognition, being a contractual measure conditional upon solving outstanding problems and substituting one type of relations for another, cannot be a precondition to negotiations but could be the outcome of successful negotiations in which satisfactory agreement is reached on solving outstanding problems. There remains the fourth element, which is the definition. Recognizing a certain state is conditional upon defining the borders of that state. There is no absolute recognition. Which borders are we required to recognize? Begin's Israel that extends to the Arab oil resources or the Israel of the partition resolution, for example?

On the political level it must be recalled that the Likud government and the Labor Party leadership refuse in all circumstances and on any conditions the Palestinian recognition, which renders the idea canvassed now and then which says that recognition is the most important card in the Palestinians' hand wrong and unrealistic.

On the other hand, we cannot ignore the fact that the United States and Europe made the question of recognizing Israel's right to exist a major issue and we are facing this issue in all our international moves. In view of all this there is need to crystallize a common view to confront this problem.

[Question] Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa and the Mayor of Bethlehem Ilyas Frayj were strongly criticized because of recent statements in which they called for dialogue with the Israelis. What is your opinion in this?

[Answer] We must differentiate between the attitude of the [Palestinian] organizations and the official Palestinian stance expressed by the PLO Executive Committee. In its official statement on 26 January 1982 published in FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH, the PLO's official paper, the Executive Committee said, "Certain statements made recently by some mayors caused it to pause and look at their effects and implications." This stand does not mean condemnation and is quite different from the stands declared by certain organizations. If we go back to the statements made by Brother Rashad ash-Shawwa we would find that they were distorted by the Israeli press and radio.

With regard to Brother Ilyas Frayj's statement, he said that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. And on the basis of this legitimacy, he suggested that it should recognize Israel "so that it might expose Israel's true expansionist attitude which is hostile to peace." As FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH said on 27 January 1982, Brother Frayj did not accept recognition of Israel but suggested to his legitimate leadership to do so in return for recognition of the Palestinian people's right. This is legitimate and I hope the day will not come when putting a view to the leadership becomes a crime punishable by death.

[Question] Don't the actions and statements of certain Palestinian organizations undermine the credibility of the Palestinian revolution and cast doubt on the unity of the Palestinian people? Aren't you afraid that zealous elements inside the country might carry out the call for the death of Ash-Shawwa and Frayj?

[Answer] First we must differentiate between the official attitude of the Palestinian revolution and the individual stands of certain organizations. The masses of our people inside and outside are committed only to the PLO's official stand which is expressed by the Executive Committee's resolutions. As for the credibility of the revolution, it is firm and established in the minds of our people thanks to the mature and responsible actions of the revolution's leadership. With regard to the death threats to Ash-Shawwa and Frayj, I firmly denounce such methods. The Palestinian masses provide a real shield protecting all our leaders inside and outside the country. The forces that are trying to divide the Palestinian ranks must realize that the nationalist Palestinian forces are quite capable of protecting themselves and of retaliating strongly when necessary.

[Question] The statement you made to the French paper Le MONDE is still the subject of criticism to this day. It seems that because of it, you have been the target of strong attacks from several quarters and the As-Sa'iqah organization accused you of treason and called for your execution. What is your comment?

[Answer] In fact, As-Sa'iqah was not alone in this stand: Inside the Palestinian arena it was shared by "the general command" [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine -- General Command] and outside the arena by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna of the dissident Fatah Revolutionary Council]. This is not the first time that As-Sa'iqah has stood in isolation from the PLO and the rest of the Palestinian revolutionary factions. This happened also in the summer of 1976. With regard to my statement to LE MONDE, if there was anything in it that calls for criticism, the PLO would not have hesitated to state its opinion frankly. Therefore, we must look for the real motives of As-Sa'iqah in another field. It must be said here that we have an accurate and detailed picture of actions that were taken and are still being taken to strike against Palestinian-Syrian relations.

The national interest dictates that we should not discuss this, but it can be said that I am ready to put the details and facts before President Hafiz al-Asad and I hope this will achieve the desired national objective.

[Question] What do you think is the reason that prompted the Israeli communist party to strongly attack your statement to LE MONDE?

[Answer] I do not deny that I was greatly disappointed when I read the statement of the Israeli communist party (RAKAH), especially when I realized after reading the statement carefully, that whoever wrote it could not have read the interview which was the subject of the attack. With regard to the agreement of views between RAKAH, the Likud and the Israeli Labor Party I would recall the late Chairman Mao's saying: "When I find myself in the same trench as my enemies I realize that I have made a mistake and I would reconsider my stand." Maybe the "friends" in RAKAH, while in this trench, will review their calculations.

[Question] For years you have been living under the shadow of death because of your views and activities. Aren't you afraid that one of the attempts on your life will succeed?

[Answer] It is a great honor for one to fall martyr for the sake of his people and nation. And if I were to fall martyr I would repeat what the poet said: "I will not care if I am killed while a Muslim, as long as God is on my side as I die."

DFLP OFFICIAL DENOUNCES ISRAELI, U.S. POLICIES

JN241640 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1515 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Interview with Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, deputy secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], member of the PLO Executive Committee and the official in charge of the PLO Information Department. by an unidentified VOP correspondent -- live or recorded; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] The Palestinian revolution is facing a number of critical issues at the present time. Can you give us the democratic front's view of these issues, first and foremost the daily press account of the possible Israeli attack on Lebanon?

[Answer] This possibility of an Israeli attack against Lebanon is affirmed by the Israeli declarations themselves and by the position of the American administration which is trying to use the Israelis first as a way of blackmailing the Palestinian movement and the Lebanese people in general. Of course we know that the position of the American administration is to try to impose a new situation in southern Lebanon, that is, to push away the Palestinian forces and the Lebanese national forces from this area and at the same time to preserve the presence of the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon and the so-called Sa'd Haddad state in that area. Of course the United States aims through this to impose its policy on the whole of Lebanon, that is to guarantee that in the future there will be a possibility to liquidate the Palestinian movement, the Lebanese patriotic movement and the presence and role of Syria in this area to serve the interest of those who are agents of Israel and collaborators with the United States policy.

Well, the missionaries of the U.S. administration like Philip Habib and others had proposed in the past a plan to accomplish this aim, that is to push away the Palestinian forces from the main regions of southern Lebanon. For this aim, Israel had tried to -- had launched two wars: one in 1978 and the other in 1981. These wars were never able to achieve that aim because of our insistance, militarily and politically, that we will never accept such terms because accepting them will mean that we accept the liquidation of our national movement as a whole.

We see that the threats of Israel and the policy of the United States compliment each other in this region and we know very well that if the American pressure will fail in trying to impose this plan upon us, they might use the military aggression directly. And we take into consideration these two possibilities: First, to fight against the political pressures, and second to face the possibility of a new military aggression which we consider might be wider aggression, that is it might include new areas. For that reason we will try to prepare our military forces for such a possibility.

[Question] A second critical issue is the struggle in the occupied territories where the Zionist settlement expansion in the West Bank and Gaza is increasing at an incredible rate, accompanied by Sharon's civil administration plan and repressive practices and recently the annexation of the Golan.

[Answer] As we can see these actions made by the Zionist occupation forces in the occupied territories are a step toward the declaration of the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Of course in the occupied territories, this policy is faced with an increasing struggle by the organized masses in the occupied territories and in the Galilee area and the masses in the Golan Heights in spite of the fact that the masses of the Golan Heights represent a very small minority, not more than 13,000. Yet they have shown that through unity and organized struggle, they can really reveal the racist policy of the occupation and they can unite around them the democratic public opinion in the area and on world level. We do not have any other alternative except to depend upon our struggle itself, upon increasing the organization of the masses in the occupied territories, upon increasing our -- upon escalating our struggle with different forms of struggle including armed struggle in the occupied territories, and upon strengthening the unity between the national forces in these areas within the national front, which I said that one of our main aims is to rebuild it once again in the coming few months. The experiences of the past years is growing more and more and that this struggle was able to achieve some victories against the policies of the occupation and that future will depend more and more on this struggle because whatever the policy of the occupation will be that is not an easy task for the Zionist forces to face a united people composed of around 2 million Palestinians under occupation whether in Gaza Strip, the West Bank or in the area of Galilee.

[Question] Finally, can you give us the front's view of the dangers the Palestinian revolution faces in the Arab and international arenas at a time when American imperialism is making a very concerted effort to expand its military grip in the Middle East region through a series of separate alliances in coordination with the existing Camp David pact?

[Answer] Mr. Haig has revealed clearly the policy and intentions of the American administration in the Middle East. Haig, reflecting the policy of this administration, does not accept any attempt by those who declare themselves as agents of the American administration for a narrow and relative independence and this is the explanation of the criticism of Mr. Haig directed toward Husni Mubarak for example or towards other countries in the Gulf region.

The aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialism all over the world, this policy which uses the methods of direct military intervention and expansion is faced also with an increasing resistance by the nations, by all those democratic and peace-loving forces all over the world, and especially in our area, the Middle East; because in the Middle East, it is quite clear that U.S. policy is to impose upon all the regimes in this area the acceptance of the strategic plan of the United States itself, plans which are directed against the Soviet Union and against the progressive and liberation forces in this area.

This plan has embarrassed to a great extent even some of the agents of the United States itself. That is why for example they said Haig feels a little bit annoyed because of this embarrassment. This is the maximum that the U.S. imperialism can do all over the world and in the Middle East. The defeat of this policy is eminent but it will take a very long period of severe struggle. Its defeat will open the way for the liberation and progressive force in the Middle East and all over the world for achieving new victories. We still remember that the defeat in Vietnam has opened the way for great victories for the international liberation movement. After Vietnam many countries were able to get rid of the grip of the American imperialism and neo-colonialism all over the world. The coming defeat of this policy because of the counterstruggle by the peoples and masses all over the world and because of the weakness of this policy by itself, this coming defeat will enable to achieve victories which might be more important than the victories that were achieved after Vietnam. As I said it will not be an easy battle, but the result of this battle we are sure of and it will open the way for us in the Middle East and for our Palestinian people also for achieving our final victory because the defeat of the U.S. imperialism strategy and policy on the world level and in the Middle East will pave the way toward enabling our resolutions to use a very suitable international atmosphere in the interest of our people and in the interest of the peoples of the Middle East as a whole.

GREEK ARTIST PRESENTS PALESTINE NATIONAL ANTHEM

NC251039 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] The leader Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received yesterday the international artist from Greece, Mikis Theodhorakis. A large number of Palestinian leaders and the revolutionary cadres attended the meeting. During the meeting Theodhorakis presented the musical sheet of the Palestinian national anthem which Brother Abu 'Ammar had asked him to compose. The audience heard the anthem after Comrade Theodhorakis delivered a speech commending the just Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian revolution, leadership and people. Comrade Theodhorakis emphasized in his speech the strong ties between the Greek and the Palestinian peoples, especially under the leadership of Papandreou's socialist government.

Brother Abu 'Ammar in reply thanked the struggler Theodhorakis and the Greek people who honored him by bestowing upon him the Golden Key of Athens. He referred to the historical ties between the Palestinian and the Greek peoples.

After this reception, the Greek artist had luncheon with the commander in chief.

## GULF AFFAIRS

### GULF INFORMATION MINISTERS END CONFERENCE

LD232250 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The seventh conference of the Arab Gulf states information ministers ended at the Sheraton Hotel in Kuwait this evening under the chairmanship of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister and acting information minister. The conference issued a number of resolutions and recommendations regarding the results of its meeting.

The conference issued the following statement on the Iraqi-Iranian war:

The seventh conference of the Arab Gulf states' information ministers, while expressing deep concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war in view of the bloodshed and the exhaustion of energies this war is causing, hopes that this war will end as soon as possible in a manner that ensures the legitimate rights of both sides.

Having studied the situation and its developments and also its probable effect on the security and independence of the region in particular and to world peace, the council calls upon the Iranian officials to respond to the repeated efforts by Iraq regarding to end the fighting between the two neighbouring countries, out of the principles and teachings of our true faith. The conference would also like to ask Iran to respond to the efforts of the Islamic Congress Organization, the committee of the nonaligned countries, the United Nations and other parties in this respect, now that Iraq has declared its readiness to cooperate with all these parties.

The conference, which feels pain due to the continuation of fighting between the two Muslim countries, believes that the continuation of this war is bound to affect the security and stability of the region. The war is drawing the attention of the superpowers, who are trying to find a foothold in this region because of the natural resources and the important strategic location which God has bestowed on us.

Furthermore, the continuation of the war between the two countries will benefit only the enemies of the Arab and Muslim nations.

The seventh conference of the Arab Gulf states' information ministers also issued the following statement on the outcome of its meetings:

At the conclusion of its meeting in the sister state of Kuwait, the seventh conference of the Arab gulf states' information ministers wishes to praise the tangible results achieved by the numerous information institutions set up in this region.

The conference asserts that the information action of the Arab Gulf states complements and backs up Arab information action. The conference also asserts that the positive experiment in implementing the decisions of these conferences is considered a valuable contribution in developing and guiding Arab information action on both the Arab and international levels.

In harmony with the resolutions of the Arab Summits and the meetings of the Arab information ministers, the conference of the Arab Gulf states' information ministers asserts the need for action within the common pan-Arab aims and for Arab information to avoid everything that harms the Arab nation or distorts its image.

The conference calls on all Arab media to work for unity, the closing of ranks and to bear in mind the dimensions of the responsibility shouldered by all for further solidarity among the sons of our Arab nation.

The conference decided to convey its sincere thanks and appreciation to his excellency the deputy prime minister, foreign minister, minister of information in the State of Kuwait and chairman of the conference for his wise management of the conference and the great efforts made for its success. The conference thanked the committee of experts, the drafting committee and the secretariat committee for their efforts to accomplish their work speedily and accurately, which has facilitated the task of the conference.

The conference also decided to send cables of thanks to his highness the amir of the State of Kuwait and to his highness the heir apparent and prime minister of Kuwait for hosting the conference and for the warm hospitality and reception.

The eighth conference of the Arab Gulf states' information ministers will be held in the United Arab Emirates in February 1983. The conference will be preceded by a meeting of the experts' committee.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister and acting information minister, has praised the spirit of fraternity and cordiality which prevailed over the meetings of the conference. He described the resolutions adopted by the conference as positive and important.

He announced that the conferences of the Arab Gulf states' information ministers have proved their usefulness and benefit through the joint information projects set up to serve the objectives of our Arab Gulf States, and consequently the objectives of our entire Arab nation in the field of information in all its forms, means, and objectives.

GCC INTERIOR MINISTERS HOLD MEETING IN RIYADH

LD231850 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Feb (SPA) -- The GCC interior ministers at 1730 today began their first conference at the King Faysal Conference Hall in Riyadh.

The opening session of the conference began with a recitation from the Koran. Then Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-Aziz welcomed the ministers and the GCC secretary general and said he was proud to be the first to address the conference, which was meeting for the first time under the GCC Secretariat General on the security of the Gulf and its peoples. His royal highness greeted the participants in the name of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his royal Highness the crown prince and wished them a successful conference in the interest of their nation and peoples. He said the peoples of the GCC look to the conference with hope and optimism, that the participants who please God, will be able to handle the additional responsibilities. He explained that all want security and tranquility for their peoples, noninterference in others' affairs and respect by other states for the desire of the peoples of the region to live in peace. His royal highness confirmed that any encroachment on the sovereignty of every member state, and subsequently the reaction would be collective, just and effective. His royal highness then wished the conference success. After the speech by His Royal Highness Prince Nayif, the conference continued in closed session. This was interrupted for the evening prayers and resumed at 1830 with only the ministers taking part. Six GCC interior ministers are participating together with 'Abdallah Bisharah, general secretary of the council, and Ibrahim as-Subhi, assistant secretary general for political affairs.

The kingdom's delegation includes Prince Nayif; Dr Ibrahim al-'Awaji, under secretary of the Ministry of Interior; Gen 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Mas'ud; Gen Muhammad ibn Hilal, director general of the Frontier Corps; Maj Gen Muhammad al-Ball'a, commander of the Special Security Forces; and Brig Muhammad as-Suhayli, director general of the Interior Security Forces' College.

## Joint Security Accord Backed

GF241421 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1338 GMT 24 Feb 82

["Text" of concluding statement issued by the GCC interior ministers conference in Riyadh on 24 February]

[Text] The GCC interior ministers held their first conference in Riyadh from 23 to 24 February 1982. The ministers reviewed the recommendations submitted by the experts committee which met on 20 and 21 February.

Inspired by the principles embodied in the GCC statute, enlightened by the statements and resolutions made by their majesties and highnesses during the first and second sessions of the Supreme Council, and in reaffirmation of the determination to secure the safety of the member states, to preserve stability in them, and to seek tranquillity for the citizens and secure the firmness and strength of the region, the GCC interior ministers agreed to sign a comprehensive joint security agreement. This agreement stems from their belief that a strong Gulf means a strong Arab nation.

The interior ministers decided to commission the general secretariat to call upon specialists in the member states and to meet in order to prepare the draft agreement, taking into consideration the opinions that were presented and the bills that were submitted by some of the member states. The ministers will meet in October to review the draft agreement.

The ministers also reviewed the documents submitted by Bahrain on the Iranian plot to undermine legitimate institutions, spread sedition and endanger security and stability. In this regard, the ministers expressed their full support for Bahrain to preserve its safety, security, sovereignty and independence on the basis of their belief that the security of the Gulf is inseparable, that aggression against any member state is aggression against the other states and that the responsibility of confronting aggression against any state is a collective responsibility to be shouldered by all of the member states.

The ministers stressed that intervention by any country in the internal affairs of one of the member states is considered to be intervention in the internal affairs of the GCC states.

The ministers expressed hope that the hostile stands adopted by some states against the GCC states will end by virtue of neighborly relations, unity of faith and known historic ties.

The GCC interior ministers expressed most sincere feelings of appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the kingdom's government for their fine reception, pleasant preparations and sincere hospitality.

## BAHRAIN

### YAR PRESIDENT ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

GF231245 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 23 Feb (WAKH) -- YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Manama from Abu Dhabi today on the fourth leg of his current tour of the countries of the region.

The YAR president was received at the airport by Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; and a number of ministers and military and civil officials.

The YAR president is accompanied by a delegation consisting of 'Ali Lufti ath-Thawr, foreign affairs minister; Fuad Qa'id Muhammad, development minister and head of the central organ of planning; Lt Col 'Ali Salih ash-Shaybah, adviser to the commander in chief of the armed forces; Ahmad Muhammad ar-Radi, secretary general of the presidency; and Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad Salih, deputy chief of staff for military affairs.

In a statement to WAKH on arrival, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said that during his visit to Bahrain he will discuss with the amir of Bahrain bolstering bilateral relations and Arab and international issues of mutual interest.

He said his country's relations with Bahrain, their ties and common destiny call for more coordination and cooperation for the sake of the welfare of both countries' peoples. The YAR president expressed the hope that his visit will boost bilateral relations.

The YAR president affirmed that the security of Bahrain is part of the overall security of Arab countries. He said, "Our national duty makes it incumbent on all Arabs to cooperate with Bahrain in warding off conspiracies."

He explained that he will discuss with the amir of Bahrain the current Arab situation and the problems of the Arab nation due to the continued Zionist occupation of Arab territories. He will also discuss means of confronting Israeli aggression against the Arab peoples.

The YAR president affirmed that the most important means of confronting the Zionist aggression is Arab solidarity since it is the sound framework through which Arab efforts and facilities can be consolidated to protect Arab rights and safeguard Arab dignity.

He pointed out that his talks in Bahrain will also deal with international issues related to the problems of the Arab nation and the effects of these issues on the struggle of the Arab nation to wrest the nation's rights from the claws of the obnoxious Zionist enemy.

Ina predeparture statement in Abu Dhabi Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said that during his visit to the UAE, views on the Arab situation in light of current developments were exchanged. He said: "We agreed with UAE officials on making sincere fraternal efforts to eliminate disagreements among Arabs.

"The only way to confront the challenges and dangers facing the Arab nation is to strengthen Arab solidarity and support the Palestinian revolution, which is being exposed to the most abominable connivance, particularly since the Camp David accords that gave Israel the chance to exercise its contentiousness," he added.

The YAR president noted that he exchanged views with UAE officials on finding a unified Arab stand to confront dangers resulting from the Iraqi-Iranian war, especially after the failure of international efforts and mediation to put an end to this war.

Meets With Officials

GF231330 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Official negotiations between Bahraini officials led by the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and the YAR delegation headed by the YAR president, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, began at Al-Qudaybiyyah Palace at 1130 today. The meeting was attended on the Bahraini side by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid, minister of health and head of the escort of honor; Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, minister of development and national ecnomy; and Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mutawwa', director of the prime minister's office.

On the YAR side the meeting was attended by 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, minister of foreign affairs; Fuad Qa'id Muhammad, minister of development and head of the central organ of planning; Lt Col 'Ali Salih ash-Shaybah, adviser to the commander in chief of the armed forces; Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad Salih, deputy chief of staff for military affairs; and Yahya 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Iryani, YAR ambassador to Bahrain.

WAKH has learned that the talks dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries and means of developing and strengthening them in different fields. The two leaders also reviewed the Gulf and Arab situations and means of reestablishing Arab solidarity. The amir and the YAR president expressed their firm desire to reestablish unity of Arab ranks so that the Arab nation can confront challenges and threats to it.

The negotiations were conducted in an atmosphere of understanding and fraternity. The Bahraini side expressed its regard for the YAR's honorable stand toward Bahrain during the recent events and its belief in the necessity of bolstering bilateral relations for the prosperity and interest of the two fraternal peoples. WAKH also learned that the talks provided an opportunity for both sides to further develop their relations.

Departs for Jordan

GF241105 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 24 Feb (WAKH) -- YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the delegation accompanying him left Manama for Jordan this morning following a 2-day state visit to Bahrain. The visit came within the course of his current tour of a number of Arab countries.

During his visit to Bahrain, the YAR president held talks on current Gulf, Arab and international events and the means of bolstering bilateral economic relations in all fields.

The YAR president was seen off at the airport by Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in cn ef of the Bahrain Defense Force; ministers; the heads of the amiri office; the chief of staff; ambassadors and senior state officials.

In a predeparture statement, the YAR president said that he had met with Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, and that they had discussed matters of mutual interest, especially the development of bilateral relations and widening horizons in [word indistinct] fields. He said they agreed on the necessity of taking [word indistinct] steps in order to achieve this.

The YAR president expressed his country's readiness to support Bahrain against all dangers resulting from current developments in the region. He said they agreed on the necessity of bilateral coordination to ward off threats in the region.

The YAR president said developments in the Arab arena, especially developments resulting from disagreements and the fragmentation of Arab relations, were reviewed. Furthermore, he said they agreed that the continuation of these disagreements, which are fomented by [words indistinct], do not benefit anyone except the enemies of the Arab nation -- foremost of which is the Zionist enemy.

The YAR president called on Arab countries to support the actions of Palestinian commandos, who are the only confrontation force against the Zionist enemy at the present time. He demanded that a unified Arab stand be adopted to confront the destructive [word indistinct] that the Iraqi-Iranian war is causing. This situation may engulf the entire region, expecially since international efforts to end the war have reached a deadlock as a result of Iran's refusal to respond to the good offices presented by Iraq.

## KUWAIT

### LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES 23 FEB

LD230934 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0846 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Feb (KUNA) -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrived in Kuwait today on the second leg of his Gulf tour. He said on arrival that the conditions through which the Middle East and Lebanon were passing demand "constant movement and consultations" with other Arab countries. He did not reveal the nature of the talks he will have with Kuwaiti officials, but informed sources said the talks will cover the Lebanese crisis in all its dimensions and the Lebanese government's claim that part of the financial aid allocated to Lebanon by Arab summits has not been received.

The Arab summit in Tunis in 1979 allocated $2 billion for the reconstruction of Lebanon following 5 years of civil war.

### Received by Amir

LD231222 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The amir of Kuwait received Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and his accompanying delegation at 1130 today. At 1230 the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, received the Lebanese guests at the government's headquarters.

A private meeting between the heir apparent and prime minister and the Lebanese prime minister was held afterwards and was attended by the minister of public health and head of the accompanying escort of honor, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi. The talks concentrated on the firm fraternal relations between the two sister countries, Arab conditions in general and other issues of mutual interest.

## OMAN

### RADIO VIEWS PDRY 'STRUGGLERS' TRIAL, NEW LAW

EA250014 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 24 Feb 82

[From the "Arab Homeland in a Week" program]

[Text] Authorities of the ruling Marxist regime in Aden have continued the trial of 12 Yemeni strugglers. They are charged with carrying out sabotage and assassinations against that pro-Soviet regime. The agent authorities in South Yemen resorted to amending the criminal law in an attempt to accelerate terrorist means of confronting the strong opposition to the agent regime. In reality the new criminal law in South Yemen is no more than a terrorist law by which the ruling gang can silence voices, since the regime has lost confidence in its existence and continuance. It has also lost confidence in its ability to protect its existence because of its clear failure to set up any proper relationship with the Yemeni people. This law therefore expresses the crisis facing this regime and confirms its failure.

This stormy crisis, in our judgment, is what prompted the regime to issue this law. Perhaps the Arab citizen realizes that the crisis facing the regime in South Yemen is a moral and ideological crisis which confirms its bankruptcy and confirms the weakness of its tools, which are incapable of justifying its course of action, a course which is hostile to the aspirations of the Yemeni people and which destroys their liberties, suppresses their will and limits their aspirations.

When any regime fails to set up a normal relationship between itself and the people it rules, then in most cases, and in order to justify its failure, it resorts to issuing laws which silence voices and create imaginary and deceptive justifications to preserve its (?stricken) existence. This is [words indistinct] in fascist, Nazi and terrorist regimes. Hence the ruling clique in South Yemen is now sensing its impending collapse and feeling the ground shaking under it.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON DELIVERY OF F-15'S

LD241304 Riyadh SPA in English 1221 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Feb (SPA) -- Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, expressed his hope that the delivery of the remaining dispatches of U.S. F-15 fighters to the kingdom will be completed within three months time.

In a press statement following attendance of the graduation of the 21st batch of pilots and technicians from King Faysal Air Academy here today, Prince Sultan stressed the full ability of the Saudi pilots to have a good command of manning such sophisticated aircraft.

This ability has proved the falsehood of reports circulated by hostile foreign repor claiming the Saudi pilots are unable to man such complicated fighters, Prince Sulta said.

Today's graduated batch included a number of North Yemeni and Bahraini nationals.

### BORDER PROTOCOLS SIGNED WITH IRAQ 24 FEB

LD242044 Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Feb (SPA) -- Saudi Arabia and Iraq today signed two protocols regulating the work of border authorities as well as pastoral tribes movements in the two countries.

The protocols were signed by interior minister, Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his Iraqi counterpart Sa'dun Shakir.

Prince Nayif described the protocols as a supplementary to the existing border agreement signed between the two countries last February.

Prince Nayif added the protocols will facilitate further border cooperation between the two countries.

Meanwhile the Iraqi minister hailed the strong fraternal relations exisitng between the two states.

He added the two sides had found no difficulties in concluding the two new accords since they are for the benefit of the two countries.

## UAE

### LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

GF241208 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpt] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at Al-Batin Palace today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'Alla, member of the Supreme Council and Umm al-Quwayn ruler; Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Sa'id ar-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries and head of the escort of honor accompanying the guest.

The meeting was also attended by 'Abd al-'Aziz ash-Shamisi, UAE ambassador to Lebanon, and Mahmud Hammud, Lebanese ambassador to the UAE.

Mr Al-Wazzaan arrived in the UAE midday on a 2-day visit to the UAE. He was received at the airport by Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Sa'id ar-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries and head of the escort of honor accompanying the Lebanese premier; Hilal Ahmad Mutah, chairman of the National Federal Council; a number of ministers; the Lebanese and UAE ambassadors; senior diplomatic representatives in the UAE; senior armed forces and police officers; and members of the Lebanese community in the UAE.

Al-Wazzan's visit to the UAE is part of his tour of the region which began with visits to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. In addition to the UAE, the tour includes Qatar and Bahrain.

### Departs for Qatar

GF250710 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0625 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Feb (WAKH) -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has left Abu Dhabi for Doha following an official 2-day visit to the UAE. The Lebanese prime minister is making a tour of the region's states.

During his visit to the UAE, the Lebanese prime minister held talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The talks dealt with current developments in the Lebanese arena and the possible contribution of the Arab states in confronting Israeli threats to southern Lebanon.

The Lebanese prime minister was seen off at the airport by Hamdan ibn Muhammad, UAE deputy prime minister; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, UAE president's representative; Sa'id ar-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries; and a number of senior UAE officials.

PDRY

COURT STATEMENTS OF 'SABOTAGE GANG' CONTINUE

EA242258 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The Supreme Court of the republic this morning continued to examine the cases of the defendants from the sabotage gang who are currently being tried for planning with the enemies of the revolution, namely mercenaries, to blow up some economic installations in Aden.

The court today heard the statements of defendant Abbas Sa'id Muhammad (al-Aghbari) and defendant Abduh 'Ali Ahmad. Abbas admitted that he contacted the mercenaries and foreign intelligence agents abroad and trained for one week in reading sections of a map of the Aden governorate and using map references to pinpoint the sites in which explosives for blowing up petroleum tanks in Aden could be stored.

The defendant admitted that after the training period he returned to Aden with quantities of explosives and handed them to the defendant Salih Muhsin who was entrusted with storing them. The defendant said he brought in two batches of explosives inside a car. He hid the first batch in (Ad-Durayn) area and the second inside chassis of buses in the Bir Ahmad area.

The court also inspected the car which used for transporting weapons inside the republic.

The court also interrogated defendant Abduh 'Ali Ahmad who admitted involvement in the sabotage plot. He pointed out that he also trained on using the map of Democratic Yemen and the means of storing the explosives in the territory of Democratic Yemen to be used for blowing up economic installations in the country. He admitted that he also came to Aden and planned to perform the task with which he was entrusted until he was arrested by the security organs in Democratic Yemen.

The session was adjourned at 1315 this afternoon. The court will resume its hearing next Saturday morning.

YAR

MINISTER CALLS SECURITY SITUATION 'EXCELLENT'

LD241332 Kuwait KUNA in English 1205 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Feb (KUNA) -- North Yemeni Interior Minister Lt. Col. 'Ali Muhammad 'Uthrub denied here Wednesday reports on security disturbances in Ibb and Al-Bayda Provinces in the central sector of the country. In a statement to AS-SIYASAH newspaper, he said: "The security situation in Yemen is excellent."

He further stated that "steps towards unity of the two Yemens are progressing." "The various committees assigned to implement stages in that direction have already covered several areas following the conclusion of the unity scheme," he said. 'Uthrub said that a joint overland company was established between the two countries to provide freedom of transport using only identity cards. A computerized system was also introduced to facilitate security affairs including passport checkpoints and homicide research, he added.

The Yemeni official stressed that the responsibility of defending Bab al-Mandab must be shouldered by "all countries of the Arab nation," and not only the two Yemens. He also revealed that a new law to organize ownership of weapons will be issued shortly and praised the local administrative system in running internal affairs.

The Yemeni minister hailed the role of Yemeni emigrants in neighbouring Arab countries in the development process of Yemen.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF ISRAEL'S SHAMIR

'Ali Luncheon Speech

NC231702 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali held a luncheon this afternoon in honor of Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the delegation accompanying him.

'Ali delivered a speech on the occasion, emphasizing the need for constructive dialogue and adherence to the spirit of peace and the historical achievement accomplished in the domain of the relations between Egypt and Israel to overcome the differences in views and in other vital issues related to the settlement of the Middle East situation.

The following is the text of Kamal Hasan 'Ali's speech:

Dear friend, Minister Shamir; Dear friends:

It pleases me to welcome you and the delegation accompanying you and to wish you a pleasant stay in Egypt. Your visit will give us an opportunity to continue the constructive dialogue which has characterized our relations in the past years and which we hope will continue in an atmosphere of mutual friendship and understanding so that we may achieve for our two countries and for the region the peace and stability to which the people of the region aspire. I am confident our discussions this morning and the talks you will hold during your stay in Egypt will have a great effect on strengthening understanding between our two countries.

Yesterday, I was very glad to meet with an elite group of Israeli mayors who are currently visiting Egypt. We had a frank and constructive dialogue which demonstrated how eager both of us are to achieve peace, the foundations of which we have already laid down together and which has undoubtedly been the genuine and real choice of the normal citizens in both Israel and Egypt.

I told the mayors that immediately before I met with them, I had met with our people's representatives in the People's Assembly to whom I explained the government's policy and its firm determination to continue the process of peace to achieve security and stability for all the peoples of the region.

Friends, the building of the edifice of just peace after a long period of enmity and wars is as much a noble aim as it is an exhausting struggle and effort. In as much as we are convinced of the inevitability of peace and its benefit to our peoples, so we are determined that our building of this peace should be based on mutual confidence, mutual understanding and complete clarity. We have a proverb in Arabic which says: Difference of opinion do not destroy a case. There is no doubt that there are differences of opinion between us on many essential matters pertaining to the settlement of the Middle East situation as a result of each side's interpretation of what was agreed upon at Camp David. Nevertheless, we are fully convinced that we can overcome all the difficulties through further constructive dialogue, adherence to the spirit of peace, and safeguarding the historic achievement made until now.

Mr Minister Shamir, tomorrow you will travel to upper Egypt on a brief visit, during which you will see part of our people's heritage. Our people established on this land a civilization about 7,000 years ago; we claim that it was the first civilization in the world. Friends, you will see for yourselves how the people of Egypt were building for peace thousands of years ago. You will clearly see how our people through creative art, science, knowledge and determination, established a glorious civilization for man's benefit, progress and welfare and to spread peace and prosperity in the country.

Yitzhaq Shamir replied with a speech in which he said that the Egyptian and Israeli governments have worked together in a serious manner during the past months to continue the normalization process and the peace process in general.

He added: I believe you agree with me that we have laid the foundations of what we wish the relations between us to be like -- friendly and long lasting. We now have to build on these foundations and to exert efforts to strengthen them and continue to consolidate the relations of tourism and trade between the two countries and to work at accomplishing many achievements in the future.

He added that progress in this field will have a constructive effect on all the other fields, including the autonomy talks.

Muhyi ad-Din, Shamir Talks

NC242138 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] During his meeting tonight with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din reviewed some aspects of the bilateral relations in accordance with the peace treaty and the agreements signed between Egypt and Israel. The two also discussed the Egyptian and Israeli points of view on the Palestinian autonomy negotiations. There was agreement in views on the importance of the continuation of efforts in the autonomy talks before and after the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in accordance with the Camp David accords.

The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the Israeli foreign minister and Israel's ambassador in Cairo.

Shamir Meets Mubarak

NC251054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Feb (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Al-'Urubah palace this morning.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason.

At the end of the 90-minute meeting, Shamir said that the talks with President Mubarak dealt with several subjects pertaining to the relations between Egypt and Israel. He described these talks as good and most cordial.

He added that the talks also dealt with the economic problems and the relations between the two countries in the era of peace. He noted that he will hold a press conference later today with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, at which the joint statement on his talks will be released.

Asked if he discussed President Mubarak's visit to Israel, he said that he discussed this and that a date will be set later and further discussions on details will be held.

Asked if the visit will take place before or after 26 April, Shamir said that he does not know.

Asked whether he obtained pledges from Egypt not to make any changes in the Egyptian policy after 26 April, he said that various details will be announced in the joint statement today.

## Council Leader, Shamir Meet

NC231708 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- Consultative Council Chairman Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim this evening received Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhag Shamir. During the meeting, views were exchanged on the completion of the final Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and the future of the Sinai. They also studied bilateral relations and the normalization of relations between the two countries.

## Shamir Meets Assembly Leader

NC232029 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1958 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- People's Assembly Deputy Speaker Sayyid Zaki this evening received Israel Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who is currently visiting Cairo.

During the meeting, the People's Assembly deputy speaker emphasized the importance of achieving a just and comprehensive peace for all the peoples of the region. He said: The principle of peace in which Egypt believes constitutes not a tactical attitude but a strategic stand stemming from the will of its people, and our stand after the Israeli withdrawal will be the same as our stand before the withdrawal.

Sayyid Zaki also stressed the need to respect the Palestinian people's rights, for the achievement of real autonomy for them and for regarding Jerusalem as part of the West Bank.

The two sides agreed that differences of opinion and stands exist in the autonomy talks but that these differences can be settled by negotiations and mutual understanding between the two sides.

The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason.

## MENA Reports on Talks

NC231555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- MENA has learned that the talks held today between the Egyptian and Israeli sides dealt with autonomy negotiations.

While the Egyptian and Israeli sides agreed on the importance of intensifying efforts to achieve autonomy, the Egyptian side concentrated on the importance of the declaration of principles concerning the powers and jursidiction of the autonomy authority being acceptable to the parties concerned, particularly the Palestinians and the Jordanians. This declaration should give the proposed Palestinian authority all powers and jurisdictions during the interim period, followed by self-determination for Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The Egyptian side made it clear that when it demands that the declaration of principles be acceptable to the Palestinians and the Jordanians, this is not something new. The Palestinians and the Jordanians were scheduled to be parties to the talks.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke about the importance of intensifying the talks to achieve a declaration of principles acceptable to the three parties -- Egypt, Israel and the United States. He also called for concentration on what will take place during the interim period and not after.

The Egyptian side expressed its rejection of the idea of concentrating in the talks on the achievement of something during the interim period only, and stressed that this idea will not serve the peace process at all and is not in its interest. Furthermore, this idea will not encourage the Palestinians to participate in the peace process.

The Egyptian team also stressed the importance of Israel undertaking confidence-building measures in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

MENA has also learned that with regard to normalization, the talks dealt with tourism between the two countries, passage through the four border crossing points, tourist entry visas, and technical problems related to postal service, telecommunications, overland transport and aviation.

It has also been learned that an Egyptian consulate will be opened in Elat on 25 April to give visas to tourists and an Israeli consulate will be opened in Alexandria.

The two sides will resume their talks on Thursday morning. Tomorrow, Shamir will visit Luxor.

### Sinai Installations Purchased

NC231729 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1635 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- An agreement was signed today between Egypt and Israel under which Egypt will purchase oil tanks which Israel built in the Ra's an-Naqb area in the Sinai for $2.5 million.

The Egyptian and Israeli sides signed the agreement during the meeting of the Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee today. The Egyptian side was headed by Rear Admiral Muhsin Hamdi.

It was also agreed during the meeting that Egypt would buy all the installations and utilities which Israel established in northern Sinai for the sum of $143 million. The contract for the purchase of these installations will be signed before 25 April. Egypt will pay 10 percent of the value at the time of signing, 60 percent in the middle of the period between the signing and the delivery and 30 percent on delivery, provided that Egypt receives all the purchased installations, including fuel stations and various utilities, in very good condition.

### Ambassadors Continue Talks

NC231837 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1805 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- A meeting at ambassadorial level was held at the Foreign Ministry this evening between the Egyptian and Israeli sides to continue the discussions that took place today between Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Discussions centered on the normalization of bilateral relations, particularly the subjects that are still being considered, like the cultural and trade relations as well as the subject of freedom of movement, within the context of which comes the subject of tourism and entry visas.

## GHALI DISCUSSES ISRAELI, ARAB RELATIONS IN MAY

PM241435 Cairo MAY in Arabic 22 Feb 82 p 11

[Interview Granted by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali to Sana' Sa'id in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpts] I said to Dr Butrus Ghali: The Israeli withdrawal from Sinai is an extremely important step toward returning things to normal, but on the other hand we must wonder about the Egyptian effort being made to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement in the area, particularly since the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai does not signify the end of the conflict.

He replied: The Israeli withdrawal is the first step toward peace, and usually the first step is the most difficult. As for the steps that will follow, they will be easier and smoother. When Israeli withdrawal in Sinai is effected, Egyptian diplomacy will have achieved a victory on the basis of which it will proceed toward a new horizon, the first steps of which will be the autonomy talks. These will continue after 26 April, so that we can achieve an interim, transitional regime under which the Palestinian people will be able to negotiate with the Israeli side. Our success in this will encourage other countries to participate in the peace process.

[Question] Can Egypt in the long term pressure Israel to make concessions in favor of the Arab area?

[Answer] I do not like the word pressure. The Egyptian side, through further negotiations with Israel and the United States, will try to play the role of full partner in relation to the other Arab countries that will agree to join the peace process. This will be the third step after the Egyptian and Palestinian parts are completed. The Egyptian diplomacy will continue to work, exert efforts and make endeavors until comprehensive, just and lasting peace is achieved in the area.

[Question] Egypt's good intentions have not lessened Israel's extremism and expansionist desires. What would be the reaction if Israel sought to annex the West Bank and Gaza territories?

[Answer] Continued negotiations with the Israeli side and the U.S. side are the best precaution against such actions. In my view no such measures will be taken. The Israeli side has pledged to negotiate within the framework of the peace process on which we agreed.

[Question] But the present active settlement movement indicates and rather confirms that Israel indeed intends to annex the West Bank and Gaza before the withdrawal from Sinai.

[Answer] That is your personal opinion, but my opinion is different in that the negotiations will continue after the withdrawal. Through these negotiations we will achieve the transitional regime under which the Palestinian people will be able to negotiate with Israel.

[Question] But what would be your reaction if Israel laid hands on the West Bank and Gaza?

[Answer] I am optimistic and I do not adopt pessimistic views. I am convinced that Israel will continue to negotiate in order to reach a solution to the Middle East problem.

[Question] Many people fear that the present tension could lead to the violation of the cease-fire between the Palestinians and Israel, particularly since observers have confirmed that Israeli military reinforcements near southern Lebanon are poised to invade the area and that there is a great likelihood that the cease-fire will collapse.

[Answer] Egyptian diplomacy believes in peaceful solutions to international disputes. If any dispute or confrontation takes place between the Israeli side and the Lebanese or Palestinian side, we believe that negotiations and diplomatic activity together with the U.S. side and the peace-loving countries would ensure a peaceful settlement of such a confrontation. We hope that Philip Habib's visit to the area in the next few days will be the best guarantee of the preservation of stability in southern Lebanon. The continuation of the cease-fire is now required more than anything else.

[Question] In the Arab arena attempts are being made these days by certain Arab countries to create the impression that Egyptian-Arab rapprochement has become imminent and that bridges of contact will soon be rebuilt. What is your reaction to this, particularly since it is being said that Egypt is trying to cover up any attempts at rapprochement at present and is waiting for the completion of Israeli withdrawal on 25 April.

[Answer] That is untrue. This is proved by the fact relations between Egypt and some Arab countries are cordial even before 26 April. We have no objection to raporochement between Egypt and the sister Arab countries, on condition that this rapprochement does not take place at the expense of normal relations between Egypt and Israel or at the expense of Egypt's undertakings under the peace treaty with Israel.

[Question] Is there any Iraqi move toward Egypt at present?

[Answer] There is no move whatever. But Egypt welcomes any Arab state that seeks rapprochement with us and seeks to settle disputes that have existed for the last 5 years.

[Question] The recent Israeli proposal to establish a Palestinian administrative council was the target of much criticism. What is your view on this, considering the fact that the establishment of such a council will leave security and foreign affairs matters in Israel's hands?

[Answer] The Egyptian stand is that the provisional Palestinian government must enjoy legislative and executive powers and that it will negotiate with the Israeli side regarding the future of the West Bank. Moreover, the fact is that such a Palestinian authority is a temporary body whose task will end with the end of negotiations with the Israeli side in order to finalize the situation in the West Bank and Gaza.

[Question] The gap between the Egyptian and Israeli viewpoints is still wide with regard to the future of the West Bank and Gaza. Do you believe that continuation of the negotiations will achieve success in the future?

[Answer] There is a wide gap between the Egyptian and Israeli viewpoints regarding the future of the West Bank and Gaza. We do not wish to minimize the size of the gap, but it can only be overcome through more dialogue and intensive negotiations in order to reach a temporary -- not a permanent -- solution that would enable the Palestinian people to begin negotiations with the Israeli side. What we can achieve is to reach a temporary framework which might be a Palestinian council or a Palestinian government. Names are unimportant.

[Question] Palestinian peace is much more difficult than peace between the Arab countries and Israel. How can this problem be solved while the United States, the full partner in the negotiations, is still declining to deal with the Palestine problem as being the most urgent problem?

[Answer] The appointment of Fairbanks as a new personal envoy is an evidence of the U.S. interest in trying to find a solution to the Palestine problem. There is an American insistence on this which was reflected by Haig's visit to the area and the talks that took place in Washington early this month between President Husni Mubarak and the U.S. political leadership. All this shows that the U.S. side is anxious to continue negotiations to solve the Palestine problem.

[Question] But the outcome of all this was the declared U.S. refusal to get involved in a dialogue with the PLO.

[Answer] As I have already said, we are still at the beginning of the road. New endeavors, negotiations and contacts with the U.S. and Israeli sides are necessary for them to accept negotiations with the PLO. One of our objectives in the peace process is to establish a direct contact between Israel and the PLO. This was what we tried to do in 1977, when the preparatory meeting for the Geneva conference took place at Mena House and invitations were sent to the PLO, the United States, the Soviet Union, the United Nations, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon to take part. The fact that we failed in our effort because of the PLO's intransigence does not mean that we are going to give up this process before we achieve direct contacts between the Palestinian and the Israeli side.

[Question] In the light of President Mubarak's promise to build new bridges of understanding and friendship with Israel after the withdrawal, some people might wonder whether it is intended to conclude a regional or nonregional agreement with Israel.

[Answer] There is no intention to conclude any regional cooperation with Israel before a comprehensive, just and lasting peace is established in the area. If we were to achieve this peace and the Palestine problem were solved and all the aspects of the crisis settled, then there would be no objection to moving toward more cooperation with the Israeli side. But as long as we are still in the first stage of the peace process, relations under the peace treaty will remain normal or routine relations in the full sense of the word.

[Question] One of the things that you have been stressing is ensuring security against Soviet infiltration in the Middle East and the United States has given this matter top priority while relegating critical regional issues to secondary importance. Do you still adhere to this belief, or is it possible that new dimensions can be given to Egypt's role in the Nonaligned Movement through closer relations with the Soviet Union?

[Answer] Through nonalignment policy and easing confrontation between the Soviet and American camps we can contribute to achieving security in the area.

[Question] But the sharp talk about confrontation with the Soviet Union has lessened at present.

[Answer] It is not words that matter. Egypt has always worked on two levels: The diplomatic level, which lies in Egypt's support for the Nonaligned Movement and pursuit of its policy of easing cold war confrontations which if they take place, will be at the expense of Third World countries, foremost of which are the Arab and African countries. The second level is paying attention to legitimate individual and collective defense against any potential aggression against the state or group of states to which we belong and to which we are bound by the joint defense pact.

[Question] But the question being raised today is whether Egypt can build closer relations with the Soviet Union in order to have a balanced relations with the United States and the Soviet Union instead of concentrating on confronting the Soviet Union.

[Answer] That is untrue. The confrontation you are talking about is not against the Soviet Union or the United States. It is against the cold war. We do not want the Arab territories or the African territories to turn into the terrain for a new cold war that might break out between the two giants or through groups of countries that are their clients. The Egyptian policy is against cold war whether it takes place in the area to which we belong or even in Europe or Latin America or Asia. If this war breaks out, the Arab countries and Egypt will suffer for it. The war will be at the expense of the technical and technological aid which the countries of the North give to the countries of the South. It is therefore in the interest of the Third World countries that peace be consolidated between the two camps. It is also natural that in such confrontations issues basically concerning the nonaligned countries will be relegated to second place; they may or may not attract interest.

[Question] Is it possible that the situation with regard to the Soviet Union may be reconsidered, particularly since there is an Arab inclination to include the Soviet Union in the Middle East peace negotiations?

[Answer] Ve have not excluded the Soviet Union. In fact from the beginning we were anxious to involve it in the peace process. This was evidence in our inviting it to attend the Mena House conference on 26 September 1977. Also, Article 6 of the Camp David accords provides that the UN Security Council will be asked to ratify the accords and guarantee the nonviolation of their provisions. The Security Council permanent member states will be asked to sign the peace agreements and guarantee respect of their provisions. Therefore there is an invitation to the Soviet Union within the five major powers to participate in a later step in the peace process. This is in order to guarantee the documents or treaties that will be signed by them to put a final end to the Middle East crisis. In the same way we have not rejected Soviet participation in the peace process. The only difference is in the timing and the stage. The Soviet Union's role will come after the first obstacles are overcome, so that when we move from the first to the third or fourth stage we will ask other countries, the Soviet Union foremost among them, to take part in the peace process. But do not forget that there are several aspects to the Middle East crisis, with regard to both the disputes between the Arab countries and Israel, and the disputes among the Arab countries themselves, and with regard to the cold war.

[Question] Last year Egypt was accused of deviating from the policy of nonalignment because of its alignment with the Western camp. What new dimensions will Egypt seek to add to the coming nonaligned foreign ministers' meeting in April in the light of President Mubarak's assertion of Egypt's nonaligned role?

[Answer] The best expression of the policy of nonalignment was what President Mubarak said in his speech following his election as president of the republic by saying that we adhere to the policy of nonalignment and that Egypt is an Arab and African state that is neither Eastern or Western. Egypt had close relations with the Soviet Union between 1960 and 1970. Now Egypt has close relations with the United States, but these close relations with the East or the West never turned into alignment. Close relations always remain within the framework of the policy and principles of nonalignment, which are based on respect for the sovereignty and independence of countries and noninterference in their internal affairs. Egypt will continue with this policy and seek to bolster the Nonaligned Movement. In this way we will be able to bolster our position vis-a-vis the two giants which will, consequently enable us to play a conciliatory role and contribute to maintaining world peace, just as we contributed to maintaining peace in the Middle East region.

AL-JUMHURIYAH EMPHASIZES COMMITMENT TO PEACE

NC232226 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2148 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- In Wednesday's issue, AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasizes that Egypt will not wipe its hands clean of the peace process in the wake of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April but will reemphasize its commitement to the Camp David accords and the achievement of full autonomy for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza sectors.

The paper, in its commentary, refers to Deputy Prime Minster and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's affirmation that Egypt insists that the proposed declaration of principles should stipulate that Jerusalem is part of the West Bank and that its inhabitants must participate in the autonomy elections.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that while Cairo has always emphasized its eagerness for peace, Israel has affiremd its eagerness for the land, announcing the establishment of new illegal settlements in the occupied territories and voicing threats to deal blows to the Palestinians in southern Lebanon

AL-AHRAM ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI

NC232323 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2152 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- In Wednesday's issue, AL-AHRAM says Israel will complete withdrawal from the rest of the Sinai on Friday, 23 April, when the inhabitants and the army will have withdrawn from the rest of the occupied territory and before the [Jewish] weekend which begins at sunset on Friday 23 April and ends at sundown on Saturday.

It is known that the peace treaty stipulates that full Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai must be completed by noon on Sunday, 25 April, and that Egypt would then immediately resume all its responsibilities and jurisdictions there in accordance with the treaty.

AL-AHRAM says that head of the Israeli side in the joint Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee Brig Gen Dov Si'on has declared that Israel will withdraw on Friday, 23 April, after the responsible Egyptian teams will have gradually assumed the management of the installations and public utilities starting as of Thursday, the day after tomorrow, to take over their full responsibilities by Friday, 25 April. Only a limited number of Israelis will remain in certain installations and all of the Sinai will be turned over to Egypt at noon on Sunday, 25 April.

Brig Gen Si'on said that the handing over will take place in four locations, the airports of Sharm ash-Shaykh, Ra's an-Naqb, (Al-Jurah) and Rafah. Contacts are now underway to designate the Egyptian and Israeli officials through whom the official measures will be carried out.

'ALI DISCUSSES SUDAN TIES, CHAD WITH SUNA

JN231852 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (SUNA) -- Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said in an interview with a SUNA correspondent in Cairo that during President Husni Mubarak's his recent trip to several European states and the United States, he noticed a readiness to offer economic and military aid to Sudan.

He explained that the FRG's aid to Sudan has increased by 20 percent and that the Paris conference which convened in January allocated about $250 million and will consider giving another $40 million to Sudan. He also stressed that the United States and the international bank have shown great enthusiasm about offering economic and military aid to Sudan.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali asserted that the Joint Sudanese-Egyptian Defense Council which met in Cairo recently was very positive. He added that the two countries' strategic perceptions were indentical and that they both agreed to give a new impetus to their bilateral cooperation, to exchange military expertise, training, spare parts, weapons, equipment and to promote the level of their technical efficiency.

His excellency emphasized that the presence of Egyptian forces in Sudan is relevent when Sudan requests such a presence and when the situation demands it.

On the defense council's meeting, 'Ali said that the council is scheduled to hold a meeting every 6 months or when necessary. However, he did not fix a date for the council's coming meeting.

Regarding Sudanese-Egyptian coordination, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that this coordination is a fact and will continue on the highest levels. This coordination, he added, has historic roots and future potentials because the two peoples have the same history. Therefore, their coordination is multifaceted and covers the various political, military and constructional areas. The two countries' integration comes to crown their joint coordination.

As for the political field, Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained that the two, Presidents Mubarak and Numayri continue to hold meetings, besides the normal coordination between the two countries, foreign ministries and ambassadors all over the world.

He added that there are two responsible ministers in both countries to follow up the issue of integration and to discuss the joint development projects. The political coordination, he said, intends to unite the two countries' diplomatic and political steps in different areas. Regarding the Arab area, for example, there is continuing bilateral coordination. The Khartoum conferences which were held to serve the national interest are best proof of this coordination.

As for the African area, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the two countries coordinate their stands on the African causes and work to serve the two countries' African interests, to further develop inter-African relations within the framework of the OAU and to promote our relations as two states of the Nile Basin. Coordination, he stressed, constitutes an essential dimension necessary to develop relations among the Nile Basin states.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the SUNA correspondent that the late President as-Sadat has asked President Numayri to try to restore the Arab solidarity and resume relations between Egypt and the Arabs. On different occasions Sudan moved in this direction and a time will come when this move becomes more positive. We have to wait for the right atmosphere.

On the threats facing Sudan from the USSR, Libya and the communist strategy in the region, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that there is no doubt that Sudan and Egypt have the same history and share the same fate. What happens in one country will certainly affect the other. The security of Sudan is the security of Egypt as well. He expressed regret over the attempt of polarization in the region. He stressed that Egypt wishes to keep the entire region away from polarization. Egypt, he emphasized, has its own independent policy and it is against any foreign interference in any state.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that in his recent visit to Khartoum he discussed this with President Numayri and throughly reviewed with him the security situation in the region and the precautions that both Egypt and Sudan should adopt through their joint coordination.

On the means of solving the Chadian issue, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt made its view very clear to with the Chadian minister of justice when this latter visited Cairo as the personal envoy of Chadian President Oueddi. We discussed the possibility of a national reconciliation and the unity of the Chadian forces in order to restore stability to Chad. We reiterated to him that Egypt recognizes the fact that President Oueddi is the interim president of Chad. The Chadian minister told us that Egypt's stand does not differ from that reached by the participants in the mini African summit which was held earlier this month.

On the Western Sahara, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt believes that the solution agreed by the Nairobi African summit conference last year is the best solution. This solution calls for holding a free referendum, as had been proposed by Morocco. Its success, however, depends on how this referendum is carried out. Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the current disputes in the Arab arena are more than enough and that time has come to end these disputes and differences.

On whether there is any connection between President Husni Mubarak's visit to Oman and the Iranian threats to the Arab Gulf, Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed that this visit took place within the framework of the continued consultations between President Husni Mubarak and the Arab countries which have relations with Egypt.

On King Husayn's recent statements that the relations between Arab countries and Egypt will be restored soon, Kamal Hasan 'Ali welcomed the return of Arab solidarity and stressed that it is out of the question for Egypt to give up the peace march which it initiated in the implementation of its policy to achieve peace, Arab demands and safeguard the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali denied that there are any contacts between Egypt and any Arab parties to cancel the Islamic Arab People's League. He added that all that President Mubarak had said was that the headquarters of the Arab League still exists and that the current seat of the Islamic Arab People's League in the Arab League headquarters in Cairo is a temporary measure. Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the Islamic Arab People's League is a league of people whose aim is to act on the popular level.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed the hope that the United States will hold a dialogue with the PLO stressing the need to begin the dialogue with Palestinian moderates. Stress must first be put on the Palestinian people's rights instead of stressing on whom should represent the Palestinians.

On whether Egypt considers the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, his excellency stressed that the PLO has a major role to assume in the future concerning the settlement of the Palestinian issue from all its aspects.

On Egyptian-Ethiopian relations, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We are not against any good relations with the Nile Basin countries including Ethiopia. Our relations with the Nile Basin countries are necessary in view of the common interests and historic bonds. What we just want is that these countries be removed from polarization.

On Iraq's request to Egypt to support the convening of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference in Baghdad and on Egypt's stand on this, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that all our contacts show a unanimity of all nonaligned states on the date and venue of the conference.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that during Alexander Haig's recent visit to the region, he submitted ideas on how to settle some differences in opinion between Egypt and Israel on autnomy. As the differences between Israel and Egypt on the subject proved to be major differences, some time is therefore needed.

On the success achieved by the autonomy talks during the past years, he said that negotiations in this respect have stalled for many long periods and we believe that the gap has not been narrowed yet.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that at the African foreign ministers conference in Addis Ababa, Egypt will deal with African problems such as the Western Sahara, Chad and Namibia which constitute hotbeds of tension in the African continent. We seek to settle these problems in cooperation with the African community.

On Egyptian-Soviet relations, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that we try to have balanced relations with other countries without the possibility of anyone interfering in our domestic affairs. As for the Soviet experts who returned to Egypt, they are less important that experts [sentence as received]. They have been recalled to complete some projects which the Soviet Union had established. The return of 66 Soviet experts does not mean any change in the political course. He added: All we seek is that no one interferes in our domestic affairs. As long as this condition is met, there will be no harm at all in restoring relations to their normal state. This applies to the Soviet Union as well as to other countries. We must not forget that we have relations with Eastern Europe on the same level. It is only natural that there be an Egyptian ambassador in Moscow and a Soviet ambassador in Cairo on the condition that there is no interference.

## AL-AKHBAR EDITORIAL PRAISES RENEWAL OF CHAD TIES

NC230857 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 23 Feb 82

[From the press review]

[Text] The AL-AKHBAR editorial "Egypt and the Return to Chad" says: Egypt has decided to resume diplomatic relations with Chad and to return an Egyptian ambassador there. This took place within the framework of cooperation with the Chadian Government in reacing an independent solution to the Chadian problem to strengthen the internal stability and the possibilities of national reconciliation among the Chadian factions. The paper says that the meaning of an independent solution to the Chadian problem is that this solution must be free from external influences and biased trends that deprive Chad of the blessings of stability and independence. This is the trend that Egypt seeks and supports for all countries of the area.

Egypt does not interfere in solving any problem of any country of the area nor has it any ulterior motive. Also, Egypt will not support a solution that is backed by external ambitions. Egypt seeks stability and peace for all countries of the area so that they can enjoy their independence and devote themselves to building their life in this era of stability and independence. The paper says that this is what we are hoping for and acting to achieve for Chad and for all countries of the area, because this will benefit them.

The ordeal from which the Middle Eastern countries are suffering is the result of ulterior motives and foreign trends that instigate differences and forment troubles and wars to serve foreign goals and obtain gains. Foreign trends lead only to destruction, chaos and loss for these countries and their peoples.

The paper says that the policy on which Egypt has decided to return to Chad and resume diplomatic relations has no goals except to achieve benefit for the Chadian people. The paper notes that Egypt's return to Chad represents a clear picture of its policy toward all the countries of the area. Egypt's policy has no goals other than seeking stability for these countries so they can devote their resources to achieving development and construction. In this way, peace will prevail throughout the Middle East, and the area -- which is located in the heart of the world -- can emerge as a great power on a par with the big powers.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR AUSTRIAN TALKS

NC241422 Cairo MENA in English 1405 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) -- Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, deputy premier for economic and financial affairs, left here today for Vienna on a four-day visit to Austria.

He will lead Egypt's delegation to the meetings of the Egyptian-Austrian Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation. He will also sign a new protocol on Austria's contribution to development projects in Egypt next year.

First Economy Undersecretary 'Abd al-'Aziz Az-Zahwi left here on Sunday for Vienna leading an economic delegation to prepare for the Egypt-Austria economic talks.

EEC REPRESENTATIVE LAUDS EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

NC241208 Cairo MENA in English 1100 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Feb (AFP) -- The resident representative of the European Economic Community in Cairo hailed the good relations binding Egypt and the European group and the development of relations in different fields between the two sides.

In his exclusive interview with MENA, marking the EEC's jubilee, he said the second protocol for cooperation between Egypt and the European group will be signed next May.

The protocol which has been initially signed for cooperation between Egypt and the European group covers fields of security, housing reconstruction, as well as horizons of scientific technical, and investments fields.

The EEC resident representative underlined that the EEC's role in the Middle East stresses the need to observe rights of both the Palestinians and the Israelis.

He expressed belief that Europe's direct contribution in the Middle East is doubtful, pointing out the French minister of external relations' statements during his recent visit to Cairo that the parties concerned should solve their own problems. Consolidation of relations between the European group and the parties concerned would provide the chance for holding a dialogue on attaining acceptable and rational solutions. Accordingly Europe does not speak of a European initiative, but a role.

On the resumption of the Euro-Arab dialogue the EEC resident representative stressed the importance of Egypt's contribution in this dialogue. He pointed out that among the problems facing the Euro-Arab dialogue is Europe's consideration of the dialogue as having an economic basis, while some of the Arab countries stresses the need to start with the vital political issues as the cause of Palestine.

Europe, he said, is ready to discuss means of handling the political causes but the Arabs should first reach an agreement among themselves on their joint viewpoint regarding that vital issues.

The EEC resident representative said that insistance on connecting the political to the Euro-Arab dialogue will slow down the operation as a whole.

The EEC representative said that the EEC states will have serious economic problems such as the prices of the French agricultural products and the difficulty of having an identity of viewpoints as regards determining the next ECC budget.

He also said that the proposal presented by the West German and Italian foreign ministers on establishing European political unity is an initiative to give an impetus to the march of consolidating cooperation among the European states.

He added that there is actually an existing political cooperation among the EEC states better than the economic cooperation.

GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 626

JN231704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Feb (INA) -- During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces have inflicted heavy losses on the forces of the Iranian enemy. Known enemy losses amounted to 61 killed and 2 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 6 vehicles, 1 gun, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 3 observation posts destroyed. Iraqi military communique No 626, issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening, pointed out that our sacrifices were 19 martyrs in all sectors, and 2 personnel carriers, 4 vehicles and 1 mortar were damaged. The following is the text of communique No 626 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The triumphant legions of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah have continued their operations in the operational sectors. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded with various weapons the enemy positions and concentrations in front of our positions in the Bostan sector, killing 34 soldiers and destroying 2 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 stockpile of hardware and 1 observation post.

2. An enemy force was seen opposite our forward units in the Dezful area. Our forces pounded the enemy force killing 13 men and destroying 1 vehicle.

3. Three men killed and four stockpiles of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

4. Four men killed in the Abadan area.

5. Three men killed in the Mehran area.

6. Two men killed and one observation post destroyed in the Shush area.

7. Two men killed in the Sumar area.

8. One vehicle destroyed in the Nowsud area.

Thus the total known enemy losses amoung to 61 killed and 2 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 6 vehicles, 1 gun, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 3 observation posts destroyed.

9. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 19 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: two personnel carriers, four vehicles and 1 mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 February 1982

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN ON EXCHANGE OF POW FAMILIES

JN231103 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Feb (INA) -- Today, Iraq officially announced approval of Kuwait and Turkey as centers for the exchange of POW families. The families will then be transported to Iraq and Iran under the supervision of the International Red Cross.

In a statement to an INA correspondent, an official spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said that Iraq is ready to give all facilities and render the necessary services for these visits.

The spokesman added Iraq will make available all facilities and necessary services to enable Iranian families, regardless of number, to meet the prisoners and to visit shrines in Iraq.

SADDAM HUSAYN SPEECH AT AN-NAJAF MEDAL CEREMONY

JN242141 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn at 24 February ceremony presenting medals to An-Najaf governor and other officials -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The comrade governor of An-Najaf and the comrade secretary of the An-Najaf branch of the Ba'th Party have played an important role in reviving the spirit of struggle and heroism in the hearts of An-Najaf sons. Their role was to reveal the latent capabilities of this great people. When we talk about An-Najaf and voluntary service, we talk about huge masses armed with faith who want to enlist in the special task forces to protect the homeland and to offer sacrifices for its sake. When we talk about this, we must recall the frustrated wagers made on Iraqi cities and Iraqis. They believed Iraqi territory would fall easy prey. They, perhaps, believed that Iraq was less solid than it appeared. They also believed that many Iraqi cities might incline their heads so the Tehran rulers could put the noose of subservience round their necks. They also had illusions when they believed that An-Najaf could be part of Iran. I do not know why they imagined such a thing. An-Najaf is Iraq, the territory and people of An-Najaf are Arab.

For sure they are disappointed now because they used to dream. We, however, cannot be held responsible for their illusions and dreams. They alone have let themselves be carried with these dreams. Imagine that they could occupy Baghdad, that An-Najaf, Basra and Karbala' were a part of Iran or that they can become a part of Iran. For sure, they are not the only ones who wish for such a thing to happen. Before them Zionism tried through the Free Mason movement or through other means and methods to achieve this. The forces of colonialism also used to believe that they would be able to humiliate Iraq, that they would be able to transform Iraq into a cow that would be continuously milked. They imagined many other sick things and dreamed many other sick dreams. Our people, however, have always dreamed of living in dignity and freedom. The Iraqi people want freedom and prosperity for others, too, but reject any attempt to humiliate or weaken Iraq or have others deal with Iraq in a haughty manner. This is how the Iraqi cities and villages are acting. The sons of An-Najaf are the same as the sons of Basra, Al-Qadisiyah, Nineveh, Baghdad and At-Ta'mim. They believed that special local circumstances could be transformed into factors contradictory to the affiliation to the homeland, to Iraq, to Iraqi territory and to the history of Iraq. They thought the sons of As-Sulaymaniyah would be closer to them than they would be to Baghdad and to the history of Salah ad-Din. They believed that the special circumstances in Irbil might be transformed into a factor of opposition to Iraq. What happened? It is not Saddam Husayn who is fighting them. Those fighting are the sons of An-Najaf, Karbala', Al-Qadisiyah, Nineveh, Basra, Baghdad, Irbil and As-Sulaymaniyah and the sons of the other governorates. Our role is just to guide and supervise. Those are the sons who have been fighting for the past 18 months. These are the ones who, with God's help, will continue to rub the faces of the aggressors and the oppressors in the mud. Let us take a concrete example. Many foreigners are wagering on As-Sulaymaniyah, Irbil and Dahuk. Let us take As-Sulaymaniyah for example. As-Sulaymaniyah is also one of the difficult cities in Iraq. Those of its sons who decide to be part of the march will do so with full allegiance. Let us take As-Sulaymaniyah as an example. There are 50,000 fighters who have volunteered from As-Sulaymaniyah for the special task forces. Let them know, because it is no secret, that the army present in the Kurdistan autonomous region now is far smaller than before the war. Military presence will be gradually reduced except for the units that must remain there. Otherwise, As-Sulaymaniyah will be protected by its sons as is the case with An-Najaf, Dahuk, Nineveh and other cities.

The sons of As-Sulaymaniyah themselves will protect and guard their land because they are Iraqis and because they have discovered and will discover even more than all those who speak about the Kurdish cause using slogans are people who are manipulated by the foreigner from abroad. The foreigner manipulates them to harm Iraq, As-Sulaymaniyah, As-Sulaymaniyah citizens, the people of the Kurdistan autonomous region as he is trying to harm Iraqi people everywhere. We ask those factions who deviated or who are direct agents of the foreigner one question. We ask those who call themselves the opposition and who live abroad on the leftovers of the foreigner, we ask them: If you are working for the Kurds, why don't you unite to harm the Baghdad government as you claim? Why should you be divided and grouped in several factions? They are so because of the foreigner's motives, individual selfishness and sick dreams. Why don't they unite to topple the Baghdad government as they dream since strength comes from unity? Why do they remain divided? The answer is that those who manipulate them are not the same party. Those who manipulate them are not just one foreign country but many foreign countries. Every foreign country has one faction that acts in its name and takes funds and other equipment from it. These foreign countries do not have common interests. They agree and disagree in accordance with changing circumstances. That's why we find them meeting around the same table to discuss unity affairs at one time, while at others they fight among themselves in accordance with the foreigner's interests in this place or that, on that point or the other, in this or that circumstance. They are also selfishly seeking leadership, gaining money at the expense of dead bodies and at the expense of the As-Sulaymaniyah people's glories. They reached the lowest level of degradation when they began killing women because they support the Ba'th Party and because they claim they are Iraqi women. Shame on those who are killing women and children because they claim they are doing so in the name of the revolution and in the name of Iraq.

I do not want to expound on the foreigner's disappointment, because steadfast Iraq is one. Iraq has become one governorate, one city, one village and one family from the north to the south. Exceptions exist but are temporary in Iraq. This is the real and great triumph. The triumph on the battlefront is the result of this triumph and not the contrary. Let all those who are disappointed realize that we are proud of many things now. What we want to be proud of, however, is not what we are doing now and are sensing now but what makes us proud is that what we are building now will have a brilliant page in history that will be recalled by generations 500 years from now.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY

JN241404 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Feb (INA) -- National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad met here today with Mihail Diamandopol, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania in Baghdad.

The Romanian ambassador conveyed an oral message to Haddad from Nicolae Giosan, chairman of the Romanian Grand National Assembly, dealing with relations between the two parliamentary bodies. The two sides also discussed bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in service of the two friendly peoples' joint interests.

## YAR PRESIDENT MAKES STATE VISIT TO JORDAN

### Amman Arrival

JN241125 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] YAR president 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Amman at noon today on a 2-day visit to Jordan. He was received by his Majesty King Husayn, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and a number of ranking officials.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has stated that his visit to Jordan is part of his Arab tour. The visit, the YAR president added, is an important opportunity to meet with his Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials to exchange viewpoints on the best means to promote cooperation between Jordan and the YAR in harmony with the strong fraternal relations between the two countries based on the ties of brotherhood, faith and common fate.

His excellency said that his visit to Jordan will enable him to review the current situation in the Arab homeland and the dangers and challenges facing our Arab nation, particularly those caused by the Israeli enemy, which has arrogantly annexed the occupied Syrian Golan Heights just as it did with Arab Jerusalem and as it is practicing its expansionist policy in the West Bank and brandishing its aggressive sword against southern Lebanon.

### More on Arrival

JN241355 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Amman at noon today on a 2-day visit to Jordan.

His excellency said that the intensification of the Israeli arrogance and intransigence is the result of the weak Arab stand which is caused by the endless rifts and differences regretably being widened day after day. He added that he will discuss with his Majesty King Husayn the best means to end Arab differences to restore unity of ranks which would enable the Arab nation to pool its energies and resources in order to confront the Israeli aggression which aims at the Arab land. This aggression does not discriminate between Arab states no matter how near or far they may be because all Arab land is a target for the Israeli aggression.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih expressed hope that his visit to Jordan will have positive results concerning bilateral relations and the Arab situation.

YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih is accompanied by: 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister; Fuad Qa'id Ahmad, minister of development and head of the central organ of planning; Lt Col 'Ali Salih ash-Shaybah, advisor to the Commander in Chief; Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad Salah, deputy commander in chief of military affairs; Ahmad Muhammad ar-Rida, secretary general of the presidential office, and a number of senior military and civilian officials.

### King Receives YAR Delegation

JN241922 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] This evening his Majesty King Husayn and YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih held a closed meeting in the Jordanian Royal Hashemite Court which was followed by an expanded meeting attended by the members of Jordanian and Yemeni delegations.

Discussion during the two meetings centered on evaluating the Arab stand from all aspects, reviewing the current situation in the Arab and international arenas, and analyzing the dimensions and motives of the challenges the Arab nation is facing. The two sides stressed the importance of consolidating united Arab action, building positive active solidarity, commitment to the pan-Arab principles and to higher Arab interest. The two sides discussed the proper means to consolidate bilateral relations and joint cooperation in all fields between the two fraternal countries.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmad al-Lawzi; Court Minister 'Amir Khammash; Staff Lt Gen as-Sharif Zayd Ibn Shakir, commander in chief of armed forces; Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim; and 'Ali as-Suhaymat, minister of transport and minister of state for prime ministry's affairs.

The meeting was attended on the Yemeni side by Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, minister of foreign affairs; Fu'ad Qa'id Muhammad, minister of development and head of the central organ of planning; Lt Col 'Ali Salih ash-Shaybah, advisor to the commander in chief; Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad Salah, deputy commander in chief of military affairs; 'Ali 'Abdallah Abu Lahum, YAR ambassador in Amman; and Ahmad Muhammad al-Iriani, general director of political administration of the Yemeni Foreign Ministry.

REPORTAGE ON BEIRUT HIJACKING BY SHI'ITE GROUP

Gunmen Hold Airliner

NC241721 Paris AFP in English 1716 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Beirut, 24 Feb (AFP) -- Gunmen today held a reported 105 passengers hostage aboard a Kuwaiti airlines Boeing 707 here after storming the jet following its arrival from Libya with a delegation of Lebanese leftist leaders including the Communist Party chief.

Officials identified the gunmen as members of the "Imam Musa as-Sadr brigades" -- supporters of a Shia Moslem leader who disappeared in Libya -- and said the hijackers wanted the plane flown to Tehran.

Negotiations for freeing the passengers at Beirut International Airport were under way between the pirates, the authorities, and the left-Lebanese National Movement.

Reliable sources said earlier the Boeing flew in with a National Movement delegation, including the secretary-general of the Lebanese Communist Party, George Hawi.

Four commandos with guns and explosives were reportedly on board the plane, and another eight with automatic weapons surrounded it.

The commandos had driven on the airfield in a black Mercedes, firing machine guns into the air, and made for the Boeing, which was standing on the runway prior to takeoff for Kuwait.

(Imam Musa as-Sadr, Iranian-born leader of Lebanon's Shia community, disappeared in Libya in 1978. Last December the "Imam Musa as-Sadr Brigades" hijacked a Libyan aircraft and held it for three days in flights between Beirut, Athens, and Tehran, before returning to Beirut and making a successful escape.)

Air traffic destined for the Beirut International Airport was diverted to Cyprus' Larnaca Airport shortly after 5 pm.

Communist Leader Aboard Plane

NC241554 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1525 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Here are new details about the hijacking of the [Kuwaiti] airliner in Beirut:

The Voice of Lebanon has learned that George Hawi [secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party] and some members of the National Movement are aboard the airliner. The airliner was surrounded shortly after the arrival of Walid Jumblatt [leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party] from Washington. Ten armed men had sneaked from a secondary road and attacked the plane when only 10 passengers had disembarked.

Amal Denounces Hijacking

NC242102 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Amal movement Information Bureau statement]

[Text] The hijacking of the Kuwaiti passenger plane violates human norms and represents a blatant outrage on people's sanctity. The movement denounces and condemns such actions on the basis of its understanding of the line of its leader. The hijacking of the plane occurs at a time when Lebanon is passing through difficult circumstances.

## Hijack Part of 'Plan'

NC242152 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The new development on the hijacked plane at the airport is that the hijackers have allowed Mufti Qabalan, the commander of Syrian forces at the airport, Brigadier General Nur ad-Din and Amal Council member Al-Haj 'Ali 'Ammar to enter the plane. They are still inside it at this hour. Around 15 minutes ago, three explosions were heard near the Transmediterranean Airline Company.

It is worth noting that Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, Minister Hamadah and [Syrian Social Nationalist Party leader] In'am Ra'd have had radio contact with the leader of the hijackers, Hamzah, urging him to release the women and children. He insisted however, on his stand.

A spokesman of the Sons of the South movement has contacted the Voice of Lebanon radio, saying that the operation is part of an integrated plan and that armed movements are taking place in the airport area and the southern suburb [of Beirut]. He warned against any reckless action that might consequently lead to a negative action by the Sons of the South movement. The spokesman further said: The incidents which have taken place in the south have made us resort to a scorched earth policy and we will not be responsible for anything until the imam returns.

## Hijack Ends, Gunmen Escape

NC250705 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] The seizure of the Kuwaiti airliner at Beirut International Airport ended at 0130 [2330 GMT] [time as heard] today, about 9 hours after arriving from Libya. Of the passengers, 105 were released, and efforts are continuing for the release of 8 others. The negotiations with the Sons of Imam as-Sadr -- the hijackers of the plane -- were tense at times and more positive at others. The negotiations were led by Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan with the leader of the operation, who identified himself as Hamzah. The negotiations lasted 9 hours.

The hijackers surrendered to the Arab Deterrent Forces in return for a promise to meet their demand to raise the question of Imam as-Sadr at the United Nations, the International Court of Justice and the Arab league.

The operation was led by Hamzah, who hijacked a Libyan plane on 7 December 1981. The plane, a Boeing 707, was on its way from Tripoli, Libya, to Kuwait via Beirut and was piloted by Husayn Musallam.

A bus approached the plane at 0103, and at 0120 the hijackers disembarked with eight persons -- two Lebanese and six Libyans. They were transported by bus outside the airport perimeter, accompanied by Major Nur ad-Din and an ADF soldier, in the direction of ADF post near At-Tiru, where the hostages were released.

At about 0120, a soldier accompanied George Hawi from the plane to the airport terminal. Ten minutes later, the passengers disembarked and were transported by bus to the airport terminal, while 49 passengers bound for Kuwait stayed aboard. Later, the airport and the runways were lit and the plane started refuelling.

## AFP Summarizes Hijack Events

OW250356 Hong Kong AFP in English 0314 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Beirut, Feb 25 (AFP) -- Gunmen last night released 105 hostages from an airliner they hijacked here on a flight from Libya, and escaped by fading into crowds at the blacked-out airport. By drawing the local and international press to the scene, the Shiite Moslem hijackers succeeded in their main objective: violently publicizing once again the 1978 disappearance in Libya of Imam Mussa Sadr, Iranian-born spiritual leader of Lebanon's Shiite community.

The gunmen, belonging to the "Imam Sadr Brigades," took over a Kuwait Airlines jet after it landed here on a flight from Tripoli, the Libyan capital. Four hijackers with firearms and explosives were reportedly booked on the flight, and the others stormed aboard after driving across the tarmac firing machineguns in the air. Among the passengers was Goerge Hawi, secretary-general of the Lebanese communist party, which is at odds with Shiite militia forces in Lebanon.

The hijacking lasted nine hours. When darkness fell, Lebanese authorities ordered lights out and blocked the runway to prevent the plane from moving. Trouble built up as communist militiamen, hearing of the incident, began mobilizing armed groups near the airport. Shortly before the last hostages were released there was a wild fusillade. Unknown attackers fired three rockets, which exploded on the runway. The hijackers let off bursts of automatic fire at the control tower, smashing glass panels but causing no casualties.

Then, as had happened in a similar hijacking last December, the Shiite gunmen slipped away without being caught. The hijackers were led by a militiaman identified as Hamzah, who also commanded the unit which took over a Libyan Boeing on a Zurich-Tripoli run December 7-9 last year. They landed here after several earlier stops. During the latest incident here, the hijackers did not issue any firm conditions for release of their prisoners. At one point they said they wanted to fly to Iran, but Tehran authorities said the plane would not be allowed to land there.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED BY ITALIAN TV

JN250855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received Italian television correspondent (Franco Firari), who conducted an interview with him. The following is the text of the interview:

[Question] Mr President, allow me to begin with a question preoccupying you and awaited by the public: What is the situation in Syria? The Hamah incidents have brought the Muslim Brotherhood back into the scene. They depend on bloody opposition against the regime you lead. Does this religious fanaticism constitute a real danger to the country? Do you think this phenomenon is internal or fed from abroad?

[Answer] What has taken place in Hamah is over and done with. Our affairs in Syria are good and do not fulfill the desires of the architects of some tendentious media that have had a lot to say about us in the past few days. These media, however, talked in accordance with their own desires isolated from the true state of affairs in our country. Our masses have proven they cannot be misled. During the past days we almost felt pity for those who pinned great hopes on the Muslim Brotherhood cliques in the city of Hamah. What took place in Hamah could happen in any country, but would not be reported by the news media as it reported on the Muslim Brotherhood clique in the city of Hamah. What happens in Hamah happens in other countries. People do not simply imagine that such events decide the future of the country or endanger it. The Muslim Brothers in our country have no future at all for many reasons. First among these reasons is that they have backward and reactionary ideas unrelated to the age we live in. Second, their ideas and practices are contrary to Islam and its essence. They think and practice in a way that depicts Islam as a reactionary, bloody religion, whereas Islam is a religion of progress, love, justice and fraternity. Thirdly, the Muslim Brothers always carry out their deeds by instigation from foreign colonialist forces. There is no better evidence of this than the two moves well-known in the history of the Muslim Brotherhood. The first was their move against Egypt's Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir at the peak of his resistance to colonialism and the colonial forces, and the second was their move against Syria, which is currently facing the fiercest and most dangerous U.S. imperialist scheme against Syria and the Arab nation. Those are the two moves known best in the history of this group. Investigations have revealed scores of proofs indicating their dubious connections. I am not here to talk about these proofs. It suffices to say that we seized large quantities of various types of weapons and hardware in the city of Hamah. These weapons and hardware came from more than one suspect source. We have also seized many important documents stressing contact, connection and instructions from foreign quarters.

In view of these factors, the Muslim Brotherhood is basically opposed in principle and interests to our broad popular masses and to our national and pan-Arab interests and principles. Therefore, they are no more than a gang of limited size, which has been dealt a strong blow by our masses. They are not important in our country or society and lack the weight to divert our people's progressive march against the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes.

Concerning the threat that might possibly be posed by the Muslim Brotherhood group to the situation in Syria, we are not worried about this at all. There is no reason for us to feel threatened. During the last 12 years, approximately, we have stressed that we express our people's wishes and work for their interests and aspirations. This has been the source of our strength and ability to surmount all the difficulties facing us in these years. We will continue to work in the same way.

I do not think that a country in which there are strong popular organizations representing the broad masses as is the case in our country should worry about an incident here or there that could crop up from time to time. As is well known, there is a broadly based party in every city and village in our country. This party plans and leads the authority. There is also a national front comprising all the parties in the country. This national front has central and branch leaderships. Our country also has popular organizations, headed by the workers and peasants unions. The workers and peasants are the most important forces in our country. We also have youth, student, women and trade union organizations. They stand in the face of moves by the Muslim Brotherhood or by any other antiregime move in Syria. Any internal enemy faced by these broad mass forces will certainly fail. This is what happened to the Muslim brotherhood in the past and this is what will happen to any hostile faction, particularly a faction that is an agent with foreign connections like the Muslim Brotherhood gang. We are well and feel at ease and reassured. We have never been worried, contrary to reports by several foreign news media.

[Question] Israel was condemned by the United Nations and the Arab League for annexing the Golan. This Syrian diplomatic victory was not translated into practical measures. Do you intend to undertake another initiative against Israel?

[Answer] We have known for a long time that Israel does not attach great importance to UN resolutions nor to world public opinion. However, this does not reduce the importance of UN resolutions or world public opinion. The UN resolutions and world public opinion are weapons we will continue to use as dictated by circumstances. We will work with those states that voted for the UN resolution condemning Israel so that this resolution is implemented practically, regionally and internationally. However, this does not mean that we have only the UN resolution to defend ourselves and our usurped rights. Nobody should assume that we possess only this weapon, because the peoples whose lands are occupied and whose sons are displaced always possess more than one weapon and more than one option.

[Question] What do you expect before Israel withdraws from Egypt's Sinai?

[Answer] I do not expect anything exciting to take place in connection with the withdrawal from the Sinai because in Egypt they stress their commitment to the Camp David accords and in Israel they also stress their commitment to the Camp David accords. If anything happens in this region during this period, it will have nothing to do with withdrawal or nonwithdrawal from the Sinai.

[Question] How do you assess the European decision to take part in the Sinai multinational force?

[Answer] We have given our opinion about this decision more than once. The European decision to take part in the multinational force is linked to U.S. strategy and not the UN resolutions. Otherwise, the European participation would have taken place under a UN umbrella.

[Question] The Saudi peace plan was not submitted for discussion at the Fes summit in November 1981. Do you think Prince Fahd's plan could be discussed in the future as an alternative to the Camp David accords? Could this plan be a starting point for solving the Middle East crisis?

[Answer] Our relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are good fraternal relations. When a pan-Arab problem is submitted for discussion, we can through fraternal ties and good relations between us find a common factor to consolidate the pan-Arab stand and the Arab nation's national interests.

[Question] Syria has more than once proposed establishing a strategic balance in the Middle East. What, in your opinion, would be the basic factors and real dimensions of this balance?

[Answer] Without going into details, I can say that a strategic balance has multifaceted elements such as political, military, cultural and economic elements. Thus, the dimensions of this balance seem to be good for us.

[Question] In connection with my previous question, I would like to ask you, Mr President, if your distinguished relationship with Moscow is an alternative to Israel's relations with the United States?

[Answer] The Soviet Union stands at our side against the occupation of our territory and the displacement of our people, whereas the United States stands at the side of Isarel and supports the occupation of our territory and the displacement of our people. The Soviet Union is cooperating with us to achieve a just peace in the region, while the United States is working with Israel to have our Arab nation capitulate to its schemes and to Israel's ambitions. There can be no better evidence of this than the recent message the U.S. President sent to Begin, in which he reiterated the U.S. commitment to achieving Israeli qualitative and technological strategic superiority in the region. The United States realized that in the presence of such superiority there can be no chance for peace. If we consider what has been written on the provisions of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement, we will find that the spirit and essence of this agreement are characterized by a hostility that is far from the solid relations of friendship that exist between us and the Soviet Union.

[Question] Mr President, what do you think of Mubarak's Egypt? Do you expect Egypt to return to the Arab fold after the restoration of Sinai?

[Answer] I do not know when Egypt will return to the Arab fold. However, I am confident Egypt will extricate itself from its Camp David shackles. We want the Egyptwe knew to destroy the chains shackling its vanguard Arab decision.

[Question] Does Syria have a plan to settle the Lebanese crisis?

[Answer] We are eagerly looking forward to the day when the crisis of fraternal Lebanon is solved. We have to help as much as we can and with all our efforts. However, the matter depends basically on the conflicting parties in Lebanon. It seems to us that accord among these parties is the suitable way to solve the current crisis of Lebanon.

[Question] How are your relations with your neighbors the Iraqis?

[Answer] We are in disagreement. We wish to pool Arab efforts, as well as the efforts of the region's countries, to support us in confronting Israeli aggression, given that this aggression is the major battle and the biggest danger. The ruling regime in Iraq has dealt the biggest possible blow to the Arab nation's triumph, first when it aborted the process of unity about to take place between Syria and Iraq, and second when it declared war on Iran after the downfall of the shah and after Iran had liberated itself from imperialist-Zionist influence and become a large, popular, military and economic force which stood at our side and stressed that our battle is its own. The Iraqi-Iranian war made us lose Iran, a Muslim country that could have fought with us in our battle, and also made us lose Iraq, a fraternal Arab country. Let us see an uninterrupted front extending from Syria to Iraq and Iran against Israel. How will the situation look then? Will the United States and Zionism allow such a front to be established? Hence, we can understand why the unity that was about to be established between Syria and Iraq was aborted and why war between Iraq and Iran was ignited.

BA'TH OFFICIAL BRIEFS PARTY ON LIFE IN HAMAH

JN241312 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches, the governors and chiefs of the executive bureaus of the popular organizations resumed meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary general. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah and a number of regional command members and ministers.

COmrade Mashariqah spoke about the principled stand of our party base and our steadfast people against all the plots hatched by U.S. imperialism racist Zionism and reactionaries who bear grudges against Arab Syria. These enemies are using the remnants of their defeated tools such as the Muslim Brotherhood criminal gang, the agent of Zionism and U.S. imperialism.

Comrade Mashariqah spoke about the wrath of our people, our party base and our popular organizations and their confrontation of the flagrant U.S. interference in Syria's internal affairs with the aim of aborting the political victory realized by Syria, namely, deepening the isolation around the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism. Comrade Mashariqah made it clear that the crimes committed by the traitorous and agent Muslim Brothers in Hamah recently -- the shelling of women, children and peaceful citizens; plundering establishments and stores and destroying homes, affirm that the members of this gang are inveterate criminals, traitors and agents and with the U.S. imperialists and agent reactionaries.

The assistant regional secretary affirmed that the search and inpsection operations for the dens of this gang and its remnants in Hamah has completely ended. He also affirmed that the party comrades and the competent security organs are now in complete control of the situation. Normal life has now begun to return to the city whose peace the treacherous gang wanted to disturb in order to serve its U.S. and Zionist masters and to implement their criminal plots.

Concluding, Comrade Mashariqah praised the honorable role of our people in Hamah and their cooperation with the party. The people of Hamah contributed effectively in wiping out the treacherous gang and teaching it a deserved lesson, he added.

The secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches, the governors and heads of popular organizations are continuing to discuss points on the agenda.

Officials End Meetings

JN242150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The regular meeting of the secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches, governors and chiefs of executive bureaus of the popular organizations concluded deliberations today under Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party Regional Command assistant secretary general. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Regional Command members and ministers. The meeting approved a number of directives to guarantee the promotion of work on all levels and in various governorates in the interest of our triumphant march of struggle under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic.

BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL IN HAMAH INTERVIEWED

JN250658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Syrian Arab television has visited the city of Hamah and conducted some television interviews. Among those interviewed was Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party branch secretary in Hamah. Following is the text of the interview:

In the early hours of Wednesday, 3 February 1982, we woke to the sound of mosque loudspeakers calling for confrontation of the authority. Then began the attack against our Ba'thist comrades for no reason other than their national and pan-Arab affiliation. The gang's elements moved to kill them and their children because of their national affiliation. A few minutes later, the telephone rang in my home and I heard the voice of comrade martyr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi's wife, calling for help against the gang's attack on her house in an attempt to kill her husband. Shortly afterward, I received another telephone call from Comrade Yahya Jalmut's wife, a third from comrade paratrooper Najat Zuluf and several other calls from my comrades, all calling for help against the Muslim Brotherhood gang.

The Ba'th Party branch secretary went on to say: I contacted the comrades in the security organs, who had a clearer picture. They told me that the gang had carried out a desperate campaign to spread panic, confusion and confrontation of the state. I went to the military security branch where I found the comrade governor, who told me that his house was also the target of an attack for several hours and that Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi, who lived near his house, was killed at the hands of treason and crime. We sat together and studied the situation. We contacted some of our comrades in the party organ and learned that they had confronted the gang to the best of their ability and repulsed some gang elements, while others managed to get into our comrades' houses, killing them, their women and children, such as Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi, Ba'th Party branch leader; Comrade Riyad al-Habbal, secretary of Hamah first branch; comrade paratrooper Sahar Ibrahim; and Comrade Fatimah as-Saqqa.

He added: We contacted all our comrades. Clashes then began between our party organ and the security organ on the one hand and the criminal gang elements on the other hand and continued until the evening when we organized our forces in an orderly, planned way. We continued to confront the elements of this criminal organization, which has dedicated itself to its masters, the Camp David partners. Of course, this gang and its elements have a long history of treason and crime. They have always tried to undermine every attempt to achieve popular gains by confronting these gains and moving Syria's revolution, heroism, steadfastness and Syria's Al-Asad backward.

On Wednesday evening we began to see arson in the commercial markets and public departments. Upon inquiry, we learned that the gang's elements were raiding the state departments and public sector institutions, looting them and setting fires.

The party branch secretary then talked about the services rendered to Hamah Province by the party and state. He also talked about the respect given to men of religion and the fulfillment of all their demands lest they should get involved in crime. The party officials did so in the customary polite Ba'thist and party manner. However, the crime perpetrated by the Muslim Brotherhood gang was large and the plot had been planned long ago. He said: We take pride in our affiliation to true Islam, not the Islam of crime, killing, treason and treachery.

Talking about the criminal scheme the Muslim Brotherhood gang intended to carry out on Wednesday morning, he said: During the early hours of this day, the criminals planned to occupy the three security branches and kill the branch secretary.

They planned their criminal operation so as to occupy the three security branches in the early hours of the day and then to kill the branch secretary, the comrade governor, the police commander and all the Ba'thist comrade heads of the popular organizations. If our comrades had not taken up arms bravely and defended themselves in the early hours, the losses would have been great and the criminals' plots would have obstructed our March. However, our comrades' task was greater than their plots. Our comrades were men in the real sense of the word and did not allow them to carry out their plans as they wished.

I am certain that if they had managed to implement their plots, they would have killed Ba'thist infants in an attempt to eradicate the Ba'thist Party. They are gangsters implementing the schemes of the Camp David partners.

I have many examples of our great tolerance in the past. One example is how we dealt with the men of religion. They took part in all the national occasions we celebrated. Mufti Shaykh Bashir Murad also accompanied us at all celebrations. We once detained his son in view of security information. However, we set him free. We even found jobs for the brothers of criminal Bassam Arna'ut, a Muslim Brotherhood leader. We did so believing that they might return to the right path. We used to receive all men of religion at the party's branch. The religious trusts minister was a witness to this when he visited Hamah 3 months ago. He saw how we treated the men of religion. We used to be completely frank with people. We used to say that building society was easy and that the most difficult task was bringing up a faithful and national individual who would always work for his country and embody his and his leadership's aspirations.

The Ba'th Party branch secretary in Hamah said that the city of Hamah has an honorable past in its national and pan-Arab stands and that a handful of the Muslim Brotherhood gang, blinded by dark grudges, cannot change the true face of this valiant province. Hamah will remain the citadel of the Ba'th and of steadfastness. It will remain rallied around the leadership of Ba'th Party Secretary General Hafiz al-Asad. It will remain with him in all the national and pan-Arab battles to build a modern Syria.

I would like to explain an important point, that is, the services rendered to Hamah Province, particularly after the corrective movement, surpassed those rendered to any other province in Syria. Many industrial projects were implemented. Simple statistics show that the funds invested in the industrial sector until the end of 1970 amounted to about 800 million Syrian pounds in Hamah Province. These funds now amount to 14 billion Syrian pounds. The Hamah allocations were not all spent. However, despite the huge funds allocated for the province, we managed by 1981 to spend all allocations and the expenditure percentage was 100 percent on 15 January 1981.

Addressing the people of proud and steadfast Hamah, city of the Ba'th, Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad called on the people to learn from this plot, concocted against them by imperialism, headed by the Muslim Brotherhood gang, and to maintain their province's sound historical status. He also called on the people to join ranks in one line and one voice behind their leader.

Talking about the weapons used by the gang, Comrade al-As'ad said: After liquidating some of the gang's elements, we discovered some very modern weapons such as 60mm mortar, RPG's, machineguns, modern USSR rifles firing bombs called (Nerga) and modern U.S. sniper rifles. We have never seen such weapons before. Moreover, we discovered some caches like the one on the Aleppo road, in which we found 1,000 weapons of various types in addition to 200 RPG's. This proves that this gang is implementing a plan and that it has masters providing it with these weapons. Moreover, we discovered some foreign currency in the form of riyals and Iraqi dinars in the possession of some of the criminal gang's elements.

Concluding, Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad warmly greeted comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, knight of the Ba'th and the president who loves his citizens and sons, who has sincerely given us more than he has given to other provinces. We also hope he will continue to give us more and that he will remain broadminded toward the people of this province. The city of Hamah will always remain the city of the Ba'th and the city of Al-Asad.

VOL ON 'UNSATISFACTORY' SITUATION IN HAMAH

NC241351 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] According to new information received by the Voice of Lebanon, the general situation in the Syrian city of Hamah remains unsatisfactory. Its inhabitants have experienced unparalleled difficult times.

It is also reported that Hamah city has been without electricity and water for several weeks and that the damage and devastation caused by the violent shelling of residential quarters, particularly the bombing from the air, were enormous.

According to other reports, Syrian authorities have buried hundreds of bodies in a mass grave without informing their relatives.

BEGIN PROPOSES NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT

TA241201 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Feb 82

[From the Midday Newreel]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin is calling on Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres to open without delay talks for the establishment of a national unity government. The prime minister writes that this is acceptable to the Likud and the NRP and certainly also to Agudat Yisra'el and TAMI. This pertains to a letter of reply the prime minister sent to Shim'on Peres this morning, after the Alignment last night turned down the prime minister's proposal to send a joint explanatory delegation to the United States. The Alignment proposed instead arranging for meetings between the foreign affairs committees of the Knesset and the U.S. Senate, a proposal described by the prime minister as impractical. Here is our correspondent Razi Barqay in the studio:

The text of Shim'on Peres' letter to the prime minister was formulated last night with the full agreement of the Alignment faction. Its main point is that the Alignment agrees that the supply of U.S. weapons to Jordan represents a danger to Israel, but the Alignment continues to disagree with the government on matters of foreign policy. Therefore, the solution is not a joint Likud-Alignment parliamentary delegation, but rather Mr Peres is proposing that representatives of the two important committees of the Knesset and the Senate should meet, discuss the matter and establish a permanent, institutionalized framework for debate. On these remarks which were given, as stated, to the prime minister's office, Menahem Begin wrote this morning, and we are bringing his words almost in full: Dear Shim'on, the prime minister writes, I have learned -- not from your letter, but from the press -- that the Alignment has decided to reject my proposal to send a joint parliamentary coalition-opposition delegation to explain the gravity of the possibility, from the aspect of Israel's security, of supplying sophisticated weapons to Jordan. Naturally, I regret your decision. I read that your colleagues suspect, that you or someone else suspects that such a delegation will serve as a corridor to a national unity government. Really, this is a terrible accusation, Menahem Begin writes. It is not clear to me why they should suspect this. I have proposed and I hereby continue to propose establishing a national unity government. In my view, from an objective point of view, it is certainly possible to establish it and this after you, Mr Peres, announced in the Knesset debate that the Alignment supports the autonomy plan as it was agreed upon at Camp David.

The basis for cooperation in a national unity government is then absolutely clear. First of all, autonomy should be established; after that, a transition period and, in the meantime, during that transition period that will last for at least 5 years, we can work together in a common government. Well, what was that hair-raising scream by some of your colleagues, Menahem Begin asks. I asked Dr Burg to announce in my name that we, the Likud and the NRP -- it is certainly possible also to add Agudat Yisra'el and TAMI -- are prepared at any moment to open talks about the establishment of a national unity government, but I know that there is a unanimously approved decision by the Alignment Executive, to refuse to even open talks about the realization of this positive idea. Therefore, as long as this negative decision has not been cancelled, we cannot do other than point out our approach in principle. If the Alignment announces that it is prepared to open talks on this issue, I will invite you to a joint discussion without delay.

And the prime minister goes on to write: Let us return to the matter of the delegation. Instead of it, you are proposing a joint meeting between the two foreign affairs committees, of the Knesset and the U.S. Senate. It is obvious that this is a very desirable proposal and one day it will certainly be realized, but just imagine for yourself: there are 2 members of the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, and at least two aides will have to accompany it.

We will then have to send 23 people to Washington for at least 4-6 weeks. I have always been weak in mathematics, Begin writes, but I think that every one of us can make the calculation: This comes close to $100,000. Our minister of finance would then be committed to an additional budget to the supplementary budget. Therefore, your proposal does not appear to be practical. I am sure, Menahem Begin concludes in his letter to Peres, that the majority in the Knesset will send a delegation to the U.S. Congress and it will be composed of a small number of English-speaking Knesset members, with explanatory skills, who will do a good job. Yours with respect and greetings, Menahem Begin.

This is a long letter by the prime minister which will certainly arouse reactions, and a first short reaction by Shim'on Peres: We did not propose sending all the members of the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, only certain representatives of the committee, and so the prime minister's argument is invalid. As for the appeal for the establishment of a national unity government, Mr Peres refused to comment, for the moment.

Eban, Shem-Tov React

TA241247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Two of the leaders of the Alignment Knesset faction, Abba Eban of the Labor Party and Victor Shem-Tov, MAPAM, have completely rejected Prime Minister Menahem Begin's proposal to establish a national unity government. Mr Eban explained that if a national unity government is founded, the opposition will be eliminated and democracy will be harmed. He emphasized that the Alignment was presenting an alternative to the government's policy and this would disappear. Victor Shem-Tov said that the proposal was not worthy of discussion at all by the Alignment because a national unity government would not solve any problem and all it would mean would be the elimination of the opposition in Israel.

Peres To Respond 25 Feb

TA241842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Shim'on Peres will be speaking tomorrow at a meeting of the Labor Party Central Committee. It is expected that Peres will publicly respond to today's proposal by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to form a national unity government. But while Peres has so far not spoken up, the offer is met with a cool reception by members of his party. Dan Eisenberg reports:

[Eisenberg -- live] According to the prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, the timing of Begin's proposal is directly related to the dispatch of a joint parliamentary delegation to the United States. The delegation would argue Israel's case against the sale of sophisticated arms by the United States to Jordan. Begin's proposal also follows a resolution against the arms deal which the coalition and a bulk of the Alignment supported.

Most of the Alignment members who have responded to the proposal so far seem unconvinced. Party Secretary General Hayim Bar-Lev said there were big differences in the approach of the Likud and Labor in every area, including autonomy. He added that the Likud was bent on annexing Judaea and Samaria. Abba Eban said that a national unity government would eliminate the opposition and weaken democracy. The Alignment, said Eban, represented an alternative to government policy.

Both Shulamit Aloni and Yosi Sarid threatened to bolt the party if it decided to join the government. Aloni charged that Prime Minister Begin wanted to share the cost of peace while reaping its glory on his own. Shlomo Hillel who represents the right-wing of the party was not excited about the offer either.

Hillel said that any proposal made before the withdrawal from Sinai could not be taken seriously. He disagreed with the theorists who believe that debate over whether to join a national unity government would be between the hawks and doves in the party. Only if the Likud makes a drastic change in its policy and accepts the labor idea of a territorial compromise in Judaea and Samaria could the possibility of a coalition with the Likud even begin to be taken seriously, Hillel said.

SHARON DETAILS 'FOUR RED LINES' IN MATCH

TA250951 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Feb 82 p 2

[Report by Paris correspondent Edwin Eytan]

[Text] In an interview to the French weekly Paris MATCH, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon says that he will probably visit Paris next summer, and that in the wake of President Mitterrand's visit to Israel, the French defense minister and its chief of staff will also visit the country. Israel is interested in resuming cooperation with France in all spheres, "but chiefly in the military and military industry areas," the defense minister told the magazine, whose new edition appears today. Sharon said: "Immediately after I was appointed defense minister, I issued instructions to our representatives in France, and contacts have already been resumed with French personnel who are influential in this sphere (the military and aeronautics spheres), and these persons have even visited Israel."

In the talks with President Mitterrand, Israel will raise the possibility of further cooperation between the two countries -- including in Africa -- in order to block the Soviet attempts to infiltrate the black continent, Sharon said. In reply to another question, Sharon said Israel "will not allow Jordan to purchase sophisticated arms from the United States." He listed the issue of arms to Jordan as one of the "four red lines" which Israel will not allow the Arabs to cross. These are:

1 -- Israel will not allow any Arab country to manufacture an atomic bomb. "With the help of France, Iraq, unfortunately, was on the point of manufacturing such a bomb, and we had no choice but to destroy the reactor near Baghdad. Unlike the West, and even unlike the Soviet Union, the Arab states are not rational elements whose sanity can be relied upon. Therefore, if any Arab state approaches the manufacture of an atomic bomb, we shall act without delay, immediately."

2 -- "The territorial status quo in the region is a safety valve. Israel will not allow the militarization of Sinai after we withdraw from the peninsula."

3 -- "We shall not allow a permanent Syrian occupation of Lebanon, or the entry of the Iraqi Army into Jordan."

4 -- "We shall not allow the supply of sophisticated U.S. arms to Jordan. This subject came up recently. We want peace, but we must assure ourselves of conditions we can live with."

Sharon went on to say that "from the information we have obtained and from evidence in the field, Israel is convinced that Syria is planning to go to war against us." In his view, Syria will launch a war "at a time it deems appropriate." Israel knew about Syria's belligerent intention even before it applied its law to the Golan, Sharon said. That law, he added, was passed to demonstrate to Syria "Israel's determination." He says that the application of Israeli law on the Golan "helped postpone the Syrian attack on Israel."

The defense minister warned categorically that Israel will strike in southern Lebanon if a violation of the cease-fire occurs. He also stressed that last July's cease-fire does not apply only to the border with Lebanon, but also to all of Israel's other borders.

Since the cease-fire, he continued, the terrorists have significantly beefed up their strongholds. "They now have 500 long- and intermediate-range artillery pieces, as well as heavy mortars, in place of their previous stock, which totalled 174 guns."

MOSHE ARENS SAYS IDF ATTACK COULD FINISH PLO

TA241410 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The new ambassador to Washington, Moshe Arens, has said that if the terrorists provoke Israel and the IDF goes into Lebanon this might be the end of the PLO. According to Arens, the terrorists in southern Lebanon should continue living in an atmosphere of uncertainty about Israel's goals. If the terrorists have diminished their activities in the region, it is only because they feel threatened.

U.S. ENVOY PHILIP HABIB TO ARRIVE 28 FEB

TA241950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib will arrive in Jerusalem on Sunday, 28 February. Our correspondent, Yoram Ronen, reports that Habib will open his Middle East tour with talks in Beirut and will subsequently come to Jerusalem to confer with the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister. Our correspondent adds that Habib will presumably not bring along new U.S. ideas and that his mission is mainly aimed at cooling down tempers and prevent the danger of a flare-up on the Lebanese border. Israel will reiterate to Habib its demand to scrupulously maintain the cease-fire on the Lebanese border.

To Be Told of PLO Violations

TA250922 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Feb 82 p 1

[Report by the Jerusalem correspondent]

[Text] Israel will inform the U.S. emissary Philip Habib -- who is due in the region on a mission on behalf of President Reagan -- of the great gravity with which it views the collapse of the cease-fire in Lebanon.

Philip Habib will hold a round of talks in Israel and in Arab capitals with the aim of trying to save the shaky cease-fire along the northern border. Political circles in Jeruslaem do not pin many hopes on the forthcoming mission. They stress that there has been an increase recently in the size of the terrorists' troop concentrations proximate to the border with Lebanon -- which constitutes a clear and acute violation of the cease-fire agreement.

Of late, the terrorists have outfitted themselves with considerable arms, including medium size tanks, anti-tank missiles and anti-aircraft missile launchers. They are also conducting extensive training maneuvers. PLO declarations regarding a resumption of terrorist activities have intensified. Also noteworthy is the fact that there are currently some 25,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon. In their talks with Habib, Israeli representatives will hear reports from the emissary about his meetings with heads of Arab states, and they will tell him explicitly that Israel has serious objections to the manner in which the cease-fire is being maintained.

SHAMIR MEETS WITH EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER

TA242023 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din this evening promised Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Cairo that if a change occurs in relations with Israel after the final withdrawal from the Sinai, that change would only be for the better.

According to Muhyi ad-Din, this is the feeling and wish of the Egyptian people.

Mr Shamir said that Israel is now undergoing a difficult and traumatic period, 2 months before the final withdrawal from the Sinai. There are sectors of the public who are opposed to the withdrawal and other sectors have doubts. Most of the Israeli people support the peace treaty but they want to make sure that the sacrifices made by Israel lead to genuine peace. Therefore, it is now important to strenthen peace, Shamir said.

Our correspondent in Cairo, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that differences persist between the two men regarding the way to accelerate the negotiations on autonomy and the dispute about the demarcation of the border in the Rafah and Elat areas. The Egyptian prime minister rejected the foreign minister's proposal not to discuss the complex issues of the autonomy, such as the issue of Jerusalem, at this particular point.

DELIBERATIONS CONTINUE ON DATE OF MUBARAK VISIT

TA251025 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Even after Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Husni Mubarak there still is no date for Mubarak's visit to Israel. Our correspondent in Cairo, Shim'on Schiffer, notes that after the meeting Minister Shamir said the visit will take place and deliberations on setting the date as well as other details will continue. He refused, however, to reply to a question on whether the Egyptian president would visit Israel before the Sinai withdrawal is completed. The foreign minister said that they discussed autonomy and tightening relations between the two countries. Minister Shamir is now conferring with his Egyptian counterpart for a summation meeting, after which a joint communique will be issued, and the two ministers will hold a news conference.

EGYPT SUBMITS DOCUMENT ON BORDER DEMARCATION

TA241210 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Feb 82 p 8

[Report by correspondent in Cairo Semadar Peri]

[Text] Tomorrow will see the start of the period of overlap between Israel and Egypt in the region between Ofira and Elat, as 60 Egyptian professional personnel disperse among Nevi'ot, Di-Zahav, Ra's An-Naqb and Ofira in order to examine the installations that will be transferred to Egypt following the completion of the withdrawal. Egypt has submitted an official document clarifying its position on the demarcation of the border between the two countries. This document, which deals mainly with Rafah, was presented to the joint military committee now meeting in Heliopolis.

According to the Egyptian document, the border points between Israel and Egypt will be demarcated with maximum precision, as set forth in the peace treaty. The demarcation is based on a 1906 agreement, by which the town of Rafah will be split into two parts: one part under Israeli sovereignty and the other under Egyptian sovereignty. Egypt states in its document that it will see to it that family ties will not be severed in the wake of the demarcation. To that end, Egypt will work with Israel to make it as easy as possible for residents of the two parts of the town who wish to go from country to country.

During the committee's deliberations it was agreed that holders of Egyptian passports will receive financial compensation from the Egyptian Government, while the Palestinians from Rafah and the residents of the Canada camp will be able to claim compensation from the Israeli Government. The chairman of the Israeli military delegation, Brig Gen Dov Si'on, told me yesterday that Israel is striving to facilitate the demarcation process as much as possible in order to prevent any harm to the local population and to obviate the need to demolish buildings. "Israel is ready to show great flexibility within the framework of the peace agreement," he added.

With respect to the border's southern section, and particularly in the Elat area, the joint committee has not succeeded in reaching agreement. Differences still exist over 15 points. At the same time, the two chairman yesterday said they would do their best to arrive at a positive summation, without resorting to the intervention of the politicians.

NABULUS RALLY PROTESTS BI'R ZAYT CLOSURE

TA242021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] A rally was held today at the Nabulus municipality building in protest against the closure of Bi'r Zayt University and in support of the Druze striking on the Golan Heights. The military government did not give permission to hold the rally in the municipality hall and thus the people gathered at the mayor's office.

'AL HAMISHMAR ON POSSIBLE W. BANK POLICY SHIFT

TA250930 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Feb 82 p 2

[Report by the West Bank correspondent]

[Excerpt] A political meeting with the participation of dozens of persons from all spheres of public life in Nabulus was held yesterday at the town hall. The military government kept an eye on the proceedings and even identified those who entered, but did not interfere. This was the first time in a long time that the military government did not ban the holding of this kind of meeting, and observers were wondering whether this was an exception or whether it was the beginning of an awakening from the hard line that barred the Palestinians in the territories from making their views heard on the burning issues of the day.

The participants called on the "progressive forces in Israel and the world" to fight against the harassment being suffered by the Palestinians in the territories. Nabulus Mayor Bassam Ash-Shak'ah greeted the assembly and called on them to unite in view of the seriousness of the hour. A series of resolutions were adopted condemning the expropriation of 2,000 dunam of land on Mount Gerizim for settlement purposes and on the restrictions placed by the military government on the activities of the local electricity company, which has been barred from carrying out operations outside the municipal boundaries. The participants expressed solidarity with Bi'r Zayt University and demanded that its closure be annulled. They also expressed solidarity with the Golan Druze in their struggle against the area's annexation to Israel. A special resolution was adopted in condemnation of the heavy taxation imposed by treasury officials in the territories, and in support of the east Jerusalem merchants in their struggle against the tax burden. The meeting called for the establishment of a PLO-led Palestinian state as a condition for peace.

COMMANDER OF N. COMMAND LIMITS GOLAN MOVEMENT

TA250534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] The commander of the Northern Command this morning issued traffic limitation orders on the Golan because of the situation in the Druze villages. The IDF spokesman said this move is aimed at guaranteeing security in the area. These decrees stipulate that the Druze are not allowed to travel from one village to another, but traffic inside the village is free. Similarly, entry into and exist from the Golan is forbidden. Access to the Hermon ski site,however, will be permitted, but only through Qiryat Shemona, Baniyas and Neve Ativ. All the other routes and blocked. Last night, two more Druze were arrested on suspicion of instigating against Israel: Jamal (Baqhish) from Mas'adah, and Salman Bahr ad-Din from Majdal Shams. They have long been known to be leftist activists and were among the organizers of the strike in the Golan villages.

OAU COUNCIL ACCEPTS WEST SAHARAN DELEGATION

EA241222 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The 38th regular session of the OAU Council of Ministers started this morning after adopting an agenda and after the African foreign minister's session accepted the OAU's decision to admit the Saharan delegation to the session. Dr Abdulai Conteh, the Sierra Leone foreign minister, mediated in the problem of admitting the Saharan delegation, which was debated throughout yesterday by various delegates. The session today appointed a chairman from Botswana, first deputy chairman, second deputy chairman and third deputy chairman from Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Libya respectively, and a rapporteur from socialist Ethiopia.

OAU Secretary General Eden Kodjo presented a report to the session this morning. Dr Peter Onu, OAU assistant secretary general for political affairs, said the debate on the acceptance of the Sahara delegation in the OAU is continuing. He said nine countries opposed the OAU's decision on the matter, while 20 countries accepted it. Socialist Ethiopia has proposed to the session that racist South Africa be expelled from the International Postal Union.

BOUCETTA PROTESTS SDAR PARTICIPATION IN COUNCIL

LD241320 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Rabat, 24 Feb (MAP) -- Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta addressed Tuesday to Dr Robert Ouko, chairman of the OAU Minister's Council a message of protest following the Addis Ababa masquerade during which the so-called "SDAR" [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] was allowed to have a seat at the OAU Ministers' Council.

Following is the text of this message:

"Mr President,

"It is with amazement that we have learnt that at the opening session of the OAU ordinary ministerial conference devoted to administrative and budgetary questions that was held in Addis Ababa Monday, a delegation of the so-called Arab Democratic Saharan Republic was allowed to attend the meeting of our organization. Is it necessary to recall that this issue was lengthily debated during the 17th summit held in Freetown. The meeting decided that no admission could be relevant without a clear interpretation of the charter and that such admission required a two-thirds majority.

The African summit entrusted the wisemen committee with the whole question. During the 18th summit of Nairobi, the organization of a referendum in the Sahara was decided and an implementation committee was entrusted with defining adequate technicalities and processes to this end. Morocco accepted the decisions and resolutions of the three meetings in Nairobi. Today's masquerade constitutes an obvious violation of the charter and regulations of the OAU and the decisions made at the level of heads of state. These are provocation maneuvers that can by no means harm the legitimate right of Morocco and its stance based on law and respect for the decisions made. These fraudulent maneuvers of the Secretariat General highly harm the organization and make the whole world question its credibility.

Morocco sees any act which does not respect the charter and regulations of the OAU and which does not take into consideration the decisions made at the level of heads of state as null and void. You should, for the safeguard and credibility of any earnest organization, take this into consideration. [sentence as received]

This message was also sent to all foreign affairs ministers of member countries of the OAU implementation committee on the Sahara.

MOI DECLARES SDAR ADMISSION 'NULL AND VOID'

LD241418 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Current OAU Chairman and President of Kenya Arap Moi has denounced what he termed the irresponsible action by OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo with the aim of accepting the Polisario gangs into the African organization. In response to the letter sent to him by His Majesty King Hassan II, President arap Moi received the Moroccan ambassador in Nairobi and expressed thanks to his majesty for his letter and also the fraternal feelings he has for his majesty.

In reply to the royal letter, the current OAU chairman stated that he totally rejects the irresponsible action of the organization's secretary general aimed at accepting the Polisario into the organization at an administrative and financial session. Such an action, says President arap Moi, is openly inconsistent with the previous resolution of African heads of states on the Sahara issue. The OAU chairman added that as far as this issue is concerned, acceptance remains the concern and the authority of the heads of state; it cannot be discussed except at summit level. Mr arap Moi declared that he did not consider himself to be bound by the decision which was made by the secretary general; it is null and void and ineffective. He asked his majesty's ambassador Mr Saad ad-Din Taieb, to express to his majesty his sincere and fraternal feelings.

SECRETARY GENERAL ADDRESSES ADDIS ABABA SESSION

EA242258 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia's proposal to the 38th regular session of the OAU Ministerial Council to debate the ousting of the racist South Africa regime from the International Postal Union has been accepted by the session. The decision to discuss socialist Ethiopia's proposal was reached this morning when the session endorsed its 10-point agenda.

The agenda endorsed today by the session -- which has yet to carry out its regular tasks for a full day -- includes wide-ranging points regarding finance, politics, economy, culture, scientific and social affairs, and legal and institutional affairs.

This morning, in accordance with the order of importance given to issues to be discussed by the session during the endorsement of the agenda, the secretary general of the OAU, Mr Edem Kodjo, presented a report on the activities of the OAU Secretariat and its branch offices in the United Nations, Geneva, Lagos, Tunis and Brussels in recent months, as well as the activities of the Surpeme Council of Sport in Africa and of the pan-African postal service.

Speaking on the organization's financial and budgetary situation, the secretary general disclosed that the organization's draft budget for 1982-83 is $21.86 million. The session discussed the secretary general's report and the draft budget this evening. Besides socialist Ethiopia's additional proposal, the session will discuss the invasion of Seychelles by mercenaries last November, as well as the motion put forward by the Sudan calling for the holding of a second international conference on the African refugee problem.

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS MOVE TO SUSPEND OAU MEETING

NC242058 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Our radio correspondent in Addis Ababa reports that the delegations taking part in the OAU Ministerial Council meetings are holding contacts to obtain the approval of 18 African states to withdraw from the council meetings.

This is the legal number required to suspend the council meeting in protest against the decision to accept the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic as a member of the OAU. Twelve states have so far withdrawn from the meetings.

Our radio correspondent has learned that contacts are underway to convene a meeting of the 24 states which did not approve the acceptance of the Saharan republic to adopt a unified stand. The meeting might be held tomorrow. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today held several contacts to tackle the situation resulting from the acceptance of the Western Saharan republic as a member of the organization. He held meetings with the foreign ministers of Guinea, Cameroon and Gabon to discuss what decision should be made.

MUCHEMI SAYS W. SAHARAN DECISION NOT BINDING

AB241011 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Nairobi, 25 Feb (AFP) -- Kenya will not be bound by any decisions on Western Sahara taken by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) foreign ministers' meeting in Addis Araba, the daily NATION reported today quoting Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary Joe Muchemi. Mr Muchemi told the newspaper that the decision of OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo to admit the self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to the foreign ministers' meeting would "not deflect" President Daniel arap Moi, the current OAU chairman, from carrying out the task he was given during the OAU mini-summit on Western Sahara held in Nairobi earlier this month.

"When the mini-summit failed to bring about negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario (the political organizatins behind the SDAR), which have been fighting each other since 1975 for control of Western Sahara, President Moi was given the task of trying to reach a settlement through a series of bilateral negotiations with all the parties concerned," Mr Muchemi said. He declined to say whether Kenya supported the secretary general's decision, explaining that the government is awaiting a full briefing from Foreign Minister Robert Ouko who is attending the Addis Ababa meeting, the NATION said.

In an editorial comment the NATION wrote: "Mr Kodjo's decision, taken on Monday at the start of what was intended as a routine week-long foreign ministers' meeting, has led to a major schism with 11 countries." "What is inexplicable, however, is why the countries backing Mr Kodjo's decision have decided to make a mockery of the implementation committee on Western Sahara's efforts to arrange a cease-fire which would be followed by a referendum," the newspaper said.

"This is made all the more inexplicable by the fact that the second meeting of the implementation committee was held here only a few days ago -- on February 9. The silence of some of the other 50 member countries over the matter is, however, less understandable," the NATION said, adding: "Its continuance can only give support to Mr Kodjo's decision which seems to have been taken on questionable grounds." "Unless his decision is nullified by the heads of state it would be meaningless to hold a referendum since Polisario's admission into the OAU means a recognition of Saharan Arab Democratic Republic....The referendum was supposed to give the people of Western Sahara a chance to decide whether to remain as part of Morocco or to form a separate state."

## ALGERIA

### JUDICIAL CONVENTION SIGNED WITH SOVIET UNION

LD241124 Algiers APS in English 1025 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Algiers, 24 Feb (APS) -- An Algerian-Soviet judicial convention was signed yesterday in Algiers between Messrs Boualem Baki, Politburo member, minister of justice and his Soviet counterpart Vladimir Terebilov. At the end of the signature of the judicial assistance treaty, the Soviet minister delivered a speech in which he praised the laudable efforts [word indistinct] for the signature of such an accord which constituted an important (?radical document) for a closer cooperation between the two countries" [quotation marks as received].

The stress was put on the first article of the document which guarantees the protection the security and the rights of the Algerian citizens [in] the Soviet Union and mutually for the Soviet citizens on the Algerian territory.

"The putting into practice of all the articles contained in the convention will be respected both by the Algerian citizen living in the Soviet Union and the Soviet citizen living in Algeria," the Soviet minister concluded.

In his answer Mr Boualem Baki indicated that "this accord furthers the bases for friendship links between both countries in several fields notably in the life of the Algerian and Soviet peoples."

## LIBYA

### ANTI-IMPERIALIST GROUP CABLES AL-QADHDHAFI

LD241254 Tripoli JANA in English 0915 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) -- The preparatory committee of the International Platform To Resist Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction sent a cable to the leader. The following is the full text of the cable:

Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great al-Fatah Revolution: The delegations participating in the meetings of the preparatory committee of the International Platform To Resist Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction wishes to renew to you and through you to the masses of the Libyan Arab people their total support and backing for your brave struggle in confronting imperialist conspiracies and those of their followers.

International imperialist endeavours led by the United States of America, to threaten the jamahiriyah and encircle it are but proof of their fear of danger threatening their interests in the entire region.

The establishment of the international platform is a signal for an important struggle at the same (?time) as it is an appreciation from all the nations of the world and its dynamic forces for the leading role of the jamahiriyah in the service of international struggle opposed to imperialism, as well as recognition of its revolutionary role in support of the struggles of national liberation movements and all (?developing) nations.

We firmly believe in the ability of the leadership of the Al-Fatah Revolution and its fighters to carry out the tasks of this struggle with success and enthusiasm.

We are certain that they will make of this platform an important and basic centre to consolidate and organise the struggle, to promote its effectiveness successfully together with the other centres, forces and political institutions of the entire international struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction, in the service of the freedom, security, sovereignty, democracy, social progress of all the nations and the peace and security of the entire world.

We chose this important occasion to renew our total belief in your great Arab people in the jamahiriyah led by their noble revolution and your revolutionary leadership and their capacity to crush all conspiracies and aggressions and to realise ambitions and revolutionary choice.

We also want to renew the pledge to remain faithful to the objectives of the masses, their ambitions and wishes throughout the world. We pledge that our mass struggle will continue and build up in order to realise these objectives, ambitions and wishes. We reaffirm our pledge to you and the Arab peoples of the jamahiriyah that we will always be ready to contribute with all means to the defence of the jamahiriyah territory, its people and revolution.

Death and defeat to imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction, victory for jamahiriyah struggles.

LIBYA-GHANA COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING

LD210258 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2015 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Feb (JANA) -- The first meeting of the Libyan Arab-Ghanaian committee was held this evening at a conference hall at the Al-Wahat Hotel in Tripoli. The brother secretary of the General Popular Committee for Justice and Chris Bukari Achibi, a member of the Provisional National Defence Council [PNDC] in Ghana, took part.

The brother secretary of the General Popular Committee for Justice made a speech in which he said that the revolution in Ghana is special to the revolutionaries in the world. He noted that the emergence of the popular revolution in Ghana at this time in particular is significant for many reasons.

He expressed the readiness of the jamahiriyah to stand alongside and aid the Ghanaian people. He stated that the cause of revolution and freedom in the world is indivisible.

Mr Chris Bukari Achibi, member of the PNDC in Ghana also spoke. He lauded the pioneering role played by the jamahiriyah in confronting imperialism and its conspiracies in Africa.

He expressed the gratitude of the Ghanian people for the support and backing they received from the Libyan Arab people and he affirmed the depth of the ties and friendship which link the people of the jamahiriyah and Ghana. Mr Chris Bukari Achibi stressed that the Hilla Limann regime enslaved the Ghanaian people and overburdened the country with foreign debts.

In conclusion Chris Bukari Achibi stressed that the Ghanaian people have resolved to live free and to be ready to stand up to all the imperialist and reactionary conspiracies in Africa.

Cooperation Treaty Signed

LD242232 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) -- A treaty of cooperation was today signed between the jamahiriyah and the Republic of Ghana.

The treaty was signed by the jamahiriyah Secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice, Mr Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy and Ghanian member of the National Defence Council, Mr Chris Bukari Achibi.

The treaty stipulates cooperation in the fields of culture, information, health and economy between the jamahiriyah and the Republic of Ghana.

## MAURITANIA

### IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD212258 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Col Maouya Sidi Ahmed Taya this evening received 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian foreign minister, who arrived here at noon today.

Deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed al-(Khudaali) this evening will give a dinner in honor of the Iranian delegation after the working session. It is expected that the Iranian delegation will leave tomorrow morning.

Departs 22 Feb

AB221537 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Excerpt] A dispatch from the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY which just reached us reports that Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the delegation which accompanied him left Nouakchott this morning. The Iranian minister, who carried a message from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Military Council for National Salvation and head of state, delivered this message to Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and head of the government.

### AMERICAN PRESENCE IN MOROCCO CALLED 'ALARMING'

AB241610 Nouakchott Doemstic Service in French 1430 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Station commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] "The U.S. presence in Morocco is taking shape. Military equipment has begun to follow the constant visits of senior officials of the CIA and the Pentagon. The U.S. Sixth Fleet has been in the port of Tangier for some days now."

This presence is alarming for all the countries of the subregion and even for our continent. It is likely to activate the conflict in Western Sahara. It is likely to hinder the finding of a peaceful solution for the painful Saharan conflict and to compromise the negotiations now going on within the OAU. "Morocco has rejected the OAU resolutions because it is sure of U.S. support and because it is strengthened by the arms and men being supplied to it by some foreign powers." "But Morocco forgets that this support is not gratuitous." It forgets that it is selfish support. There are some people who are prepared to enter into alliance with anybody whatsoever.

"However, the wheels of history will not stop turning." People struggling for independence, peace and progress will overcome their enemies despite the threat of arms. "All the obstacles will be surmounted and Africa's dignity will be safeguarded. We must rise up against the imperialist activities on our continent which strengthen the reactionaries. We will continue to struggle against all activities aimed at undermining our national unity and territorial integrity."

## SUDAN

### GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS SUMMIT ON IRAQI-IRANIAN WAR

JN241516 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 144 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Feb (SUNA) -- Sudan has declared its support for submitting the issue of the Iraqi-Iranian war to an Arab summit to determine the ways and means to finally end this destructive war to safeguard Muslim lives and potentials and to direct these potentials toward defending the fateful issues of the Arab and Islamic nation.

In a statement, Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak said: In these circumstances when our Islamic and Arab nation need more unity and solidarity to confront the continuous Israeli challenges and to stand united in face of Israel's treacherous practices and arrogance in the region, we find that the Iraqi-Iranian war is killing thousands of Muslims and wasting the potential and abilities of two Muslim countries. Muhammad Mirghani said what astonishes, nay pains, Sudan is that this destructive war is still going on despite Iraq's repeated calls from all regional and international rostrums for a halt to it.

The Sudanese minister also referred to Iraq's acceptance of the good offices and mediations exerted by the Islamic Conference Organization, the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations in addition to its agreement to participate in negotiations to seek a just and peaceful settlement of the dispute.

The minister added: Despite all this, Iran continues to remain a stumbling block for all these initiatives, mediations, and repeated calls and has increased the bloodshed. Not content with this, Iran did not hesitate to cooperate overtly with Israel, thus weakening the Arab nation and paralyzing its potentials. In this resepct, the Sudanese minister referred to the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor which came as a gesture of Israeli support and assistance for Iran.

### DPRK VICE PREMIER DELIVERS LETTER TO NUMAYRI

JN201528 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA) -- President Numaryi received this morning DPRK Vice Premier Kong Chin-tae who delivered to the president a letter from DPRK Chairman Kim Il-song dealing with strengthening relations between the two countries. During the meeting the talks centered on bilateral relations and means of promoting them. The talks also dealt with the DPRK chairman's proposals within the current efforts to reunify the two parts of Korea. President Numayri stressed the need for continued endeavors to unify the two parts of Korea through dialogue. The talks also dealt with nonaligned issues. The president said that the Nonaligned Movemment should be strengthened and its principles upheld and that it must remain outside superpower struggle and hegemony. At the conclusion of the meeting, President Numaryri asked the DPRK Vice Premier to convey his greetings to Chairman Kim Il-song.

## TUNISIA

### LIBYA'S COLONEL AL-QADHDHAFI CONTINUES VISIT

LD241510 Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Tunis, 24 Feb (JANA) -- Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi last night reached the Tunisian province of Munastir on his way to Tunis.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was given an official and popular welcome by the governor of Munastir, Mansour Zairy, the secretary general of the party coordinating committee in the province, (Mvlrzal Herqili) [name as received], and the local popular masses.

Colonel Mohamed Mzali, Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Defence Minister Salaheddine Baly, National Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram, and the minister delegate to the prime minister in charge of civil service and administrative reform El-Mezri Chekir.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi left Safaqis at 1900 hours yesterday after being given a send off by the governor and mayor of Safaqis, general secretaries of the party's coordination committees in Safaqis and large crowds of people.

Received by Bourguiba

LD241634 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba and his wife received Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi this afternoon at the Palace of the Republic in Carthage. His excellency warmly welcomed his guest who was accompanied by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and the members of the Libyan delegation including Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, and Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of economy.

His excellency the president showed his guest around the presidential palace and briefed him on souvenir photographs of the liberation struggle.

Afterward the president held a private talk wtih Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Then the head of state and his wife invited their guest to a lunch attended in particular by several government members and the members of the Libyan delegation.

Meets With Intellectuals

LD250008 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] A meeting was organized this evening at As-Sadah Palace in Al-Marsa attended by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and a group of Tunisian intellectuals and writers.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi began this meeting by analyzing the contents of the Green Book and the third universal theory, stressing that it surpasses Marxism and Capitalism. Referring to religion, he said that true Islam should not be used to control the destinies of nations and that (?movements) which encroach on God in the name of religion are in actual fact (?an exploitation) of the masses for purely political reasons. This was the case for instance during the great era of sedition and the emergence of some religious sects in the early post-Muhammad era.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi then analyzed certain types of political regimes. He said military coups are a disaster to the regimes they overthrow.

Meanwhile, a number of Tunisian intellectuals spoke and made some observations and asked questions about Arab unity and the history of Arab unity experiments in the Arab world.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere dominated by outspokenness and the desire to exchange views.

## KENYA

### PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES MAJOR CABINET RESHUFFLE

EA251256 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi has today announced a major Cabinet reshuffle. The reshuffle also introduces the reorganization of various ministries.

The vice president, Mr Mwai Kibaki, is also now the minister for home affairs;
Mr James Gichuru retains his portfolio as minister of state;
Mr Charles Njonjo becomes the minister for constitutional affairs, while the new minister for finance is Mr Arthur Magugu.
Other changes include: Minister of Water Development -- Mr Jeremiah Nyagah;
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development -- Dr Zacharia Onyonka;
the Ministry of Cooperative Development -- Mr Robert Matano;
the Ministry of Agriculture -- Mr Munyua Waiyaki.
Mr Stanley Olitipitip retains the portfolio as minister for local government.
The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting -- Mr Eliud Mwamunga;
the Ministry of Livestock Development -- Mr Paul Ngei;
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs -- Dr Robert Ouko.
Mr G.G. Kariuki becomes the minister for the new Ministry of Lands, Settlement and Physical Planning; and Mr Nicholas Biwott moves to a new Ministry of Regional Development, Science and Technology.
The Ministry of Works and Housing -- Mr Charles Rubia;
and Mr Joseph Kamotho retains his portfolio of Higher Education Ministry.
Ministry of Commerce -- Mr John Okwanyo.
The Ministry of Culture and Social Services will now be headed by Mr Moses Mudavadi.
The Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife -- Mr Elijah Mwangale;
and Mr Gilbert Mbijiwe is the minister of energy.
The Basic Education Ministry will remain under Prof Jonathan Ngeno,
while Mr John Omanga moves to the Ministry of Industry.
Mr Henry Kosgey will remain in the Ministry of Transport and Communications.
The Ministry of Environment and Natural resources -- Mr Oloo-Aringo;
and Mr Titus Mbathi continues being the minister for labor.
Dr Mukasa Mango is now the minister of health.
Mr Kamau Kamere continues as the attorney general.

### ARINGO DENIES SUPPORT FOR UGANDAN REBELS

EA241602 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The minister for information and broadcasting, Mr Peter Oloo-Aringo, has said that Kenya and Uganda have maintained good relations ever since colonial days, and that the relations should continue to be strengthened for the benefit of the two countries. Mr Aringo said this today when he received the Ugandan high commissioner to Kneya, Mr David Mwaka, who called on him at his office in Nairboi.

The minister said that the two countries have good trade relations and that Kenya's government fully supports Uganda in her reconstruction efforts. He said that Kenya does not support any political group that aims to undermine the government in Uganda and Kenya would not interfere with Uganda's internal affairs. He said that foreign correspondents should not use their base in Kenya to attack her neighbor. The minister also called for an exchange of visits between Kenya and Uganda's journalists to the respective countries.

The Ugandan high commissioner said that his country is grateful to President Daniel arap Moi for his cooperation and assistance in rebuilding Uganda. He said that people in his country are settling down and there are essential commodities that previously were not available in shops.

## SOMALIA

### EPLF REPORTS KILLING 500 ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS

EA241606 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali [illegible] GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The front fighting for the independence of Eritrea, the EPLF, yesterday reported that its forces had killed 500 Abyssinian colonialist soldiers and wounded many others during a clash on Monday. A spokesman for the front said that some T-54 tanks and large quantities of military hardware were destroyed at the battlefront. The EPLF spokesman added that fierce fighting is still going on.

### RADIO KULMIS SAYS HARGEISA CLASHES CONTINUE

EA242306 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Confrontations are still taking place in Hargeisa and its suburbs between the people of the region -- with the support of some of the armed forces -- and the terrorist regime's repressive organs. According to the latest reports on the demonstrations and confrontations in Hargeisa and its suburbs, the terrorist regime's repressive organs have killed many civilians and wounded and arrested others. So far, 24 civilians have been killed.

In an incident that occurred on Monday afternoon, the civilians destroyed the police station in Hargeisa and other offices belonging to the terrorist regime. Reports add that the terrorists reinforced their strength with forces equipped with 24 jeeps mounted with 106 mm field funs and units of the 21st and 60th companies stationed near Hargeisa.

The reports add that some forces from the 54th battalion have been kept on the alert at (El Berte) to crush the rebellion in Hargeisa, the capital of the northwest region and its surroundings.

## UGANDA

### UFM DENIES TRYING TO OVERTHROW OBOTE GOVERNMENT

AB241453 Paris AFP in English 1441 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Nairobi, 24 Feb (AFP) -- The clandestine opposition Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM), which has claimed responsibility for yesterday's large-scale attack on Kampala's main barracks, today denied that it had been trying to overthrow President Milton Obote's government.

In telephoned press statements the UFM said that if it had intended to have a go at the Obote regime, it would not have attacked a barracks away from the centre of the capital. The movement said its casualties were only four people missing.

Figures produced by the government (67 guerrillas killed, 10 others wounded) were in fact those for civilians killed in crossfire during fighting in the suburbs around the Lubiri barracks, the UFM said. The spokesman denied that guerrilla forces had fired mortars from the steps of Rubaga cathedral, which lies only one mile from the barracks, arguing that the mortars had a range of between 2.5 and three miles. Reports from Kampala yesterday supported government claims that the cathedral grounds were used as a firing point.

KAMPALA QUIET AFTER UFM ATTACK ON ARMY BARRACKS

AB231451 Paris AFP in English 1240 GMT 24 Feb 82

[By Mukyush Jengo]

[Excerpts] Kampala, Feb 24 (AFP) -- The Ugandan capital of Kampala was quiet last night following yesterday's guerrilla attack on the sprawling Lubiri military barracks, just one mile from the city centre. Banks, offices and shops re-opened as usual today and there were more people and traffic on the streets in the business centre, which appeared deserted yesterday after the outbreak of violence. But an eerie calm remained in the southern suburbs today and in Ndeeba, the closest suburb to the Lubiri barracks. Shops remained closed as small groups of people in the streets discussed the fighting.

But the troops which carried out intensive house to house searches for the guerillas in the suburbs of Mengo, Rubaga, Ndeeba, Katwe, Kabowa and Najjanankumbi had gone back to barracks. There were no roadblocks in the five suburbs -- an unexpected departure from the standard Ugandan Army procedure in the wake of guerrilla attacks.

According to the official statement only two government soldiers were killed in the fighting. But it failed to mention casualities among civilians caught up in cross-fire, which unconfirmed reports said numbered ten or more. The official death toll is still the highest to be reported by the government in one incident since the war which toppled Idi Amin in 1979.

The guerrillas used light 60 millimetre mortars to shell the barracks, as could be deduced from the shells left lying in front of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Rubaga. No journalists have visited the barracks since the shelling to assess the damage. But view from the front of the cathedral today, no buildings in the barracks appeared to have been destroyed. The Rubaga Cathedral overlooks the barracks and the guerrillas took advantage of the absence of military men from the church hill to place their mortars in front of the cathedral.

Kampala was quiet today but still not completely normal. No daily newspaper was on sale and cars back-firing in the streets set people jumping.

IVORY COAST

AFP: ABIDJAN UNIVERSITY CONFLICT COOLING DOWN

AB241540 Paris AFP in French 1419 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP) -- The 2-week old conflict between the National Union for Research and Higher Education [SYNARES] and Ivorian Government authorities seemed, on Wednesday, likely to be settled within the next few days while the student protest appeared to have cooled down considerably in Abidjan.

The Ivorian authorities adopted a very firm position by deciding to close the university and institutions of higher learning as well as university residences in the capital and to suspend scholarships after the students demonstrated against the ban imposed on Laurent Gbagbo, an Ivorian historian who was forbidden to give a lecture on democracy.

The SYNARES, siding with the students, called for the resignation of Charles Valy Diarassouba, vice-chanellor of the university, protested against the invasion of the campus by the police and began a strike for an indefinite period. The authorities responded by dissolving the SYNARES and suspending the salaries of lecturers.

Although a SYNARES tract was distributed in Abidjan reaffirming the union's stand on the problems of higher institutions in Ivory Coast as recent as Tuesday morning, its secretary general, Pierre Kipre, brought about a sensational turn of events late in the evening when he appeared on television appealing to lecturers to return to work when the authorities announce the reopening of the university and institutions of higher learning.

Mr Kipre made this request because of the need to gather new psychological conditions in order to conserve the strictly professional nature of the demands of the teachers and researchers. On the other hand, he expressed the need not to give any sort of "pretext to the internal and external enemies of the Ivory Coast in order to use the demands of the Ivorian teachers and the research fellows as weapons for destabilization." Finally, Mr Kipre insisted on the need to have confidence in President Houphouet-Boigny to find the most appropriate solutions to the general crisis affecting the country's educational and research system.

This new language expressed by the union leader came at the moment when another union -- the National Union of the Teachers of the Second Degree -- threatened in a tract on Tuesday to go on strike beginning Thursday, 4 March, if the rights of the National Union for Research and Higher Education are not restored.

Also, it has come about at a time when the protest movement embarked upon by the students in the Ivorian capital has virtually died out, after protest marches and the looting of shops in the popular quarter of Treichville on 9 February, 1982. The situation has become calm in Abidjan where the peacekeeping forces have only become more numerous than usual. According to observers in the Ivorian capital, everyone seems to be awaiting the outcome of Friday's meeting of the members of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast -- the sole party -- and members of government, which will be presided over by Ivorian head of state Houphouet-Boigny.

If no new developments occur before then -- with regard to the revival of the movement -- the Ivorian authorities might have to set dates for the resumption of classes for students and lecturers, the same observers note.

Among the lecturers, there is a large number of foreigners, including about 240 members of the French assistance corps at the university alone, and almost as many in the institutions of higher learning in the Ivorian capital. They had to interrupt lectures when the institutions of learning were closed down. But they never got involved in the debates which were strictly among Ivorians -- officials on the one hand and students and union leaders on the other hand.

SYNARES LEADER ASKS FOR END TO STRIKE ACTION

AB241507 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 24 Feb 82 p 1

[Statement issued in Abidjan on 23 February by Pierre Kipre, secretary general of the dissolved National Union of Research and Higher Education [SYNARES] calling on members of the union to call off their strike action]

[Text] The party and the government have decided to dissolve the SYNARES following the unfortunate events of 9 February on the university campus.

Elected secretary general since 5 May 1980 by the absolute majority of members of this union dissolved on the directive of the authorities; finding it legally impossible to bring together all those who gave me the mandate. I, the undersigned, Pierre Kipre, effective today, 23 February 1982, call on all Ivorian lecturers and researchers to put an end to their strike action and to return to their places of work as soon as the university and the institutions of higher learning are reopened.

This appeal is motivated by the following considerations:

1. The need to meet new psychological conditions in order to maintain the strictly professional character of lecturers and researchers' claims;

2. Our concern not to give internal and external enemies of our country any excuse whatsoever to use the Ivorian lecturers and researchers' claims as a means of destabilization;

3. The duty of lecturers and researchers to contribute, with other Ivorians, to the cultivation of the ideal of national unity patriotism and well-planned development -- an idea which is also that of our profession;

4. Finally, the need to have confidence in the president of the republic, his excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, to find the most adequate solutions to the general crisis in our educational system and research.

This confidence is coupled with the conviction that the president of the republic will forgive the events that took place.

## NIGERIA

ROK FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES, MEETS AUDU

AB241613 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Prof Ishaya Audu, and his South Korean counterpart, Mr. Sin-yong No, today in Lagos held a closed door meeting on bilateral and international issues. The two ministers are expected to sign an agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation between their countries tomorrow. Mr. No, who arrived in Lagos today, will tomorrow pay a courtesy call on President Shehu Shagari. He is expected to leave for home on Friday.

## ANGOLA

### EDUCATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

EA241206 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Talks in Luanda between a delegation of the Bulgarian Education Ministry, led by Minister Aleksandur Fol, and officials from the Ministry of Education, have ended with the signing of an agreement of vital importance to the two countries. Aleksandur Fol, who left Luanda for home yesterday, said shortly before his departure that an increase was expected in the number of Bulgarian teachers in Angola's institutions of higher education.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### 'IMPERIALIST MANEUVERS' BEING MADE AGAINST NATION

EA241144 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Samora Moises Machel, president of Frelimo and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, gave a reception yesterday for internationalist cooperative workers from Western countries who supported the armed struggle for national liberation. The head of state said in a speech that there are perfidious imperialist maneuvers against the People's Republic of Mozambique. President Samora Machel said that imperialism is waging an economic war against Mozambique, supporting the South African regime in order to continue Mozambique's dependence on the apartheid regime. He added that imperialism considers Mozambique a bad model for defending peace and supporting the independence of peoples.

### DPRK VICE PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS

EA241136 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Summary] DPRK Vice President Pak Song-chol left Maputo for Zambia this morning after ending his visit to Mozambique. During the visit he was received by President Machel to whom he handed a message from President Kim Il-song.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### NATIONALIST DEPUTIES WITHDRAW SUPPORT OF BOTHA

AB241339 Paris AFP in English 1332 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 24 (AFP) -- A simmering dispute within South Africa's ruling Nationalist Party burst into the open today as 22 members of the parliamentary party withdrew their support for Prime Minister Pieter Botha. Mr Botha, who was given a vote of confidence by the 120 other members of the parliamentary caucus, gave the dissident politicians a week to think things over.

#### Botha Comments

LD242226 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] A National Party member of the South African Parliament has left a caucus meeting of the party in Cape Town saying that he is finished with the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha.

In the same caucus meeting 22 members of the National Party have voted against a motion of confidence in the prime minister. In a statement soon after a lengthy caucus meeting Prime Minister Botha said the 22 members had been given until next Wednesday to reconsider their position. He said if they failed then to support the motion disciplinary action would be taken against them. Two of the National Party members who voted against the prime minister are members of the Cabinet. They are Dr A.P. Treurnicht and Dr F. Hartzenberg. Mr Botha said he would be giving consideration to their Cabinet membership toward the weekend. Both had indicated that they did not intend leaving or splitting the party. The leader of the official opposition in Parliament, Dr Frederik van zyl Slabbert, said unity in the National Party had been destroyed and that South African politics had entered an entirely new phase. He described the event as an irreversible action.

AFP Views Split

AB241800 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 24 Feb 82

[By Herve Guilbaud]

[Text] Cape Town, 24 Feb (AFP) -- An open split in South Africa's ruling National Party, made public today, is the most serious since the party came to power in 1948 and could transform South Africa's political scene. A lingering dispute between the party's moderate (verligte) and conservative (verkrampte) wings was brought into the open at the meeting of the party caucus here when 22 members of the parliamentary party withdrew their support from Prime Minister Pieter Botha, while verkrampte leader Andries Treurnicht abstained in a vote of confidence. A group of 100 MP's voted in favour of Mr Botha, who is criticised by conservative Afrikaners for his "liberalism" and who is accused daily of selling out to South Africa's black majority by weakening the foundations of apartheid.

The voting figures in themselves do not give a true picture of the situation, since Mr Treurnicht is secretary-general of the strongest of the National Party's four provincial organizations, the Transvaal Federation. Mr Botha was a compromise candidate when he was elected prime minister in September 1978 with support of some 15 members of the Transvaal party organization, led by current Foreign Minister Pik Botha. The verkramptes have never forgiven the victory of a man from Cape Province -- Pieter Botha was then and still is secretary-general of the Cape Federation -- over their own candidate, Transvaal Connie Mulder, who was then both information minister and secretary-general of the Transvaal Federation.

Mr Mulder had been tipped as the natural successor to John Vorster, but he has since faded from the political scene, swept away by the scandal of the Information Ministry's secret funds, which can to be known as South Africa's "Muldergate". The spectacular crisis is reminiscent of one in 1969, when a handful of Nationalists stormed away from the Mnijiream Party and set up the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP, the Authentic National Party). The HNP has never had a member of Parliament, but it won large numbers of votes during the April 1981 whites-only general elections, making it a close run for several National Party candidates. The Herstigte Nasionale Party, which presents itself as the guardian of Afrikaner, is not far in ideological terms from the right-wing of the National Party, and an alliance of the HNP and the national dissidents cannot be ruled out if the crisis persists.

Prime Minister Botha has given Andries Treurnicht and his fellow dissidents until Wednesday to fall back into line or face disciplinary measures. There is still time for the party to pull itself together, but some of the dissidents have made statements that are highly critical of Mr Botha, and Mr Treurnicht has summoned an emergency meeting of the Transvall Federation for Saturday. This would indicate that the lines are being drawn for a confrontation with the Verligte Party members. The National Party has 131 members in the 165-seat Parliament, and would not seem to be seriously threatened by the liberal, mainly English-speaking white opposition even if the split is confirmed.

But the breach in party ranks, if confirmed, would represent a serious long-term threat to the unity of the Afrikaner "volk", a prospect which has terrified Nationalist leaders since they came to power almost 34 years ago.

HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION BEGINS 2-DAY NAMIBIA VISIT

LD251004 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Mr [P.W.] Botha has arrived in South-West Africa/Namibia at the head of a high-level delegation for a 2-day visit. Mr Roelof Botha; the minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan; and the chief of the defense force, Gen Constand Viljoen, says they will be having discussions with all community leaders in South-West Africa/Namibia. He also hopes to meet church leaders. The discussions will deal with political, commercial and agricultural matters.

The newly-appointed South African Ambassador to Washington Dr Brand Fourie, is to join the prime minister in Windhoek. Dr Fourie (?has held) talks on South-West Africa/Namibia with the American undersecretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker.

The prime minister said the stage had been reached where phase two of the Western settlement plan for the territory had to be tackled, and it was necessary to hear the views of the various leaders in depth. Mr Botha also said the events in the National Party caucus meeting in Cape Town would have no effect on the handling of the South-West Africa/Namibia question by South Africa.

ZIMBABWE

UK FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES IN SALISBURY 25 FEB

AB250835 Paris AFP in English 0811 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Salisbury, 25 Feb (AFP) -- Lord Carrington, the British foreign secretary, arrived in Salisbury today on his first visit to Zimbabwe since independence nearly two years ago.

The British peer, who chaired the Lancaster House talks in 1979 that ended the Rhodesian war and prepared the way for independence elections, flew in on a special RAF VC-10.

Accompanying him is Sir Leonard Allinson, under secretary of state for African affairs and Britain's representative to the "contact group" of five Western states working for a settlement in Namibia.

Lord Carrington is expected to discuss Namibia as well as British-Zimbabwean relations with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and other officials during his 48-hour stay. He leaves Saturday for Nairobi, Kenya.